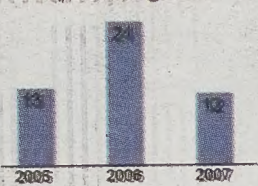
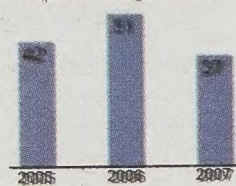


Reported Burglaries



Public safety reports drops in burglary and drug crime

Reported Drug Violations



Director Lisa Boudah believes Steven Browne's absence contributed to drop

By Cloe Shasha
STAFF WRITER

The Department of Public Safety released the Middlebury College Annual Crime Report Statistics for 2007 on Oct. 9. The report includes crimes committed in 2005 and 2006 as well. While most rates of specific crimes did not drastically change between 2005 and 2007, the drop in burglary since 2006 and the drop in drug law violations since 2005 are noteworthy.

Associate Dean of the College and Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah explained that while these numbers are representative of true statistics, many crimes are not reported by the victims involved.

"I think more students are more aware now that they should be mindful of their space and lock their doors when they are gone," Boudah said. "But maybe some years more people took effort to report, and others didn't."

Between 2006 and 2007, the burglary count on campus fell from 24 to 12 and from 18 to six in residential facilities.

Boudah speculated that the primary reason for this sudden drop was because of specific individuals — no longer at large on campus — who were responsible for many burglaries.

"It's not that a lot of people are committing crimes, but often there are a few people who are commit-

ting a lot of crimes," Boudah said. "Like Steven Browne: he was not a Middlebury student but he was stealing backpacks, ID cards, mail in the mailroom, campus checks and he was cashing those checks at banks. He got more and more bold until the police could convict him because they could show him on the banks' video monitors when he was walking in and out."

Vermont State Police cited Browne, a 24-year old Shoreham

resident, with a long list of crimes and charged him with felonies in 2006. He was brought into court for forgery and has not been accused of committing crimes since the end of that year.

"Steven Browne went into custody and was on probation," Boudah continued. "Removing him from our community may have had a big effect on the drop in burglaries."

SEE TOBACCO, PAGE 3

NY Times editor Strum tells faculty how to deal with press

By Stephanie Joyce
STAFF WRITER

When banks fail or war breaks out in an isolated region of the world, the public and reporters turn to the experts for answers. As Middlebury is increasingly present on the national stage, faculty and staff are being contacted for comment on topics ranging from sustainable development to youth drinking and everything in between. In order to better prepare faculty and staff to work with the media, the Public Affairs office arranged a talk on Oct. 23 about "When the Media Call" with Chuck

Strum, managing editor at The New York Times and father of Alec Strum '08.

Citing a reporter's need to "answer questions now or sooner," Strum cautioned that "truth, [for reporters], is what [they] know on deadline." Strum highlighted the importance of meaning what you say and saying what you mean in his discussion of current news media. In today's wired world, "whatever you did or said now orbits in perpetuity on the Internet," he said.

Strum also reflected on the ease with which people divulge information when they are allowed

to be the center of attention, warning the audience, "your interest is in getting things right, not just getting noticed."

Despite these words of caution, Strum encouraged faculty and staff to talk to the media as a means not only of getting their own voice heard, but also of getting Middlebury's voice heard. In addition to the pragmatic reasons of disseminating information and getting one's name in the paper, Strum cited a more idealistic reason for speaking to the media; "helping

SEE STRUM, PAGE 14

Student activist pushes for public course evaluations

By Austin Davis
STAFF WRITER

Molley Kaiyoorawongs '09, who has recently spearheaded a campaign to decrease student apathy concerning dining hall management, is expanding her crusade to include advocating a change to the administration's course evaluation policies. The ubiquitous posters covering campus state her goal frankly: "What if students could read end-of-semester professor and course evaluations?"

Kaiyoorawongs is no stranger to challenging norms at the College — as part of her senior year explosion of activism on campus, she currently coordinates a campaign designed to stop the dining halls' loss of dishes by working from the bottom up and challenging students at their level. Her newest project, however, provides for far more disagreement and debate.

Assisted by Yan Min Choo '09 and a small corps of volunteers, Kaiyoorawongs has devised a three-step plan to publicize the debate over faculty evaluations. First,

to get the question into the minds of community members, her campaign is plastering the campus with flyers. After giving students time to mull it over, an informal survey of their opinions will occur through their mail boxes, in their e-mail accounts or at the dining halls. If students show an overwhelming lack of interest in making course evaluations public, the campaign stops there. If they do show an interest, then Kaiyoorawongs plans to approach everyone with institutional power about the results. If the faculty and administration begin a dialogue with students about this issue, Kaiyoorawongs will judge her campaign a success.

Kaiyoorawongs believes that some additional form of public transparency is necessary to improve the quality of the teaching at Middlebury. Prefacing her motivations with the disclaimer that "the majority of my professors here at Middlebury have been phenomenal," she believes that the current perceived lack of accountability tenured professors have to

the responses of student evaluations is unacceptable. Professors' tenure is reviewed only once every ten years, and student evaluations count for only about one-third of the process. If student evaluations were made public, Kaiyoorawongs believes that professors would have

SEE KAIYOORAWONGS, PAGE 2



Angela Evancie

RETURN OF THE NONSENSE

The College's most outrageous comedy improv troupe, Otter Nonsense, returned for another fall show on Oct. 28. Judith Dry '09, left, and Xander Manshel '09 react to the crowd's latest prompt.

Intercollegiate Quidditch World Cup draws big crowd to campus

By Ian Trombulak
STAFF WRITER

The College hosted and won the second annual Intercollegiate Quidditch World cup for the second year in a row on Oct. 26, beating out Vassar College once again for the title. Fourteen schools sent teams this year, coming from as far as the University of Washington for the opportunity to compete.

In Quidditch, a sport adapted

from J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* series, there are two separate objectives: scoring points by throwing the Quaffle (a volleyball) through one of the other team's three hoops, and capturing the Snitch, a weighted sock hanging out the back of the shorts of a cross-country runner dressed in all gold. Putting the Quaffle through a hoop is worth ten points, while grabbing the Snitch is worth 30 and immediately ends the

game.

The Middlebury team that mounted brooms as the Panthers on Sunday also won a title on Saturday, when they were victorious in the intramural Quidditch tournament flying as The Dementor's Kiss.

However much excitement there was on Saturday, it could not match the buzz at the pitch on

SEE DEMENTOR'S, PAGE 2

this week



Prasch on the Crash
Bob Prasch sorts through the pieces of the economy, page 10



Radio on the Stage
Emma Stanford reviews "Talk Radio," page 18

Voting Bloc Party
MiddVote engages with the electoral process, page 12



Kaiyoorawongs' plan set pending student interest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a greater incentive to maintain the quality of their classes in order to maintain enrollment numbers.

On the other hand, Choo focuses on the particular benefits public evaluations would have for students trying to pick classes. Students searching for the classes that best fit

member of the Political Science department and a six-year veteran of the Evaluation Committee, felt uneasy about making course evaluations public.

"There is something confidential and local about a course evaluation, an agreement between student

available.

Kaiyoorawongs and Choo say they are trying to get students "just to say, 'hey, why

are things the way they are?' We should question them and what people do. After that, it's up to them."

There is something confidential and local about a course evaluation, an agreement between student and professor, student and course.

— Paul Nelson

them often turn to www.MiddKid.com for its teacher evaluations, but "MiddKid has a number of drawbacks," he says. Primarily, it lacks the legitimacy a school-sanctioned project would have because it does not draw comprehensive pictures of the professors it reviews. Choo doesn't want to use public student evaluations as a way to penalize professors, but instead, as a means of assisting students in choosing classes.

The faculty, however, is expected to resist efforts to make course evaluations public. Professor Paul Nelson, a long-standing

and professor, student and course," he said.

While he is not against an alternative system for students to offer more comprehensive advice for their peers in deciding their classes, Nelson believes that "the local dimension of evaluations" would be lost if they were made publicly



Jessica Appelson

UNITING FOOD, FUTURE AND FOCUS

Amy Trubek of the University of Vermont speaks about "The Taste of Place, Our Possible Future," on Oct. 23 as part of the student-organized symposium on issues surrounding food, "What We Eat and What It Means."

"Dementor's Kiss" sweeps through prelims, finals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sunday as 14 teams from across the country walked onto Battell Beach for the second annual World Cup. However, the teams who showed up represent only a small fraction of those actually playing.

"Quidditch has already spread to around 200 colleges in the world," said league Commissioner Alex Benepe '09. "Most of them are in the US, but there is a team starting up at Oxford University, another at Belgium, a few in Amiens, France, Australia, Austria, etc." He hopes that next year the most international team to come won't just be McGill University from Canada. Nonetheless, fans flocked from near and far to see what all the fuss was about.

"We just found out that this is happening," said Denise Pavao of Massachusetts, who is not affiliated with any team but simply loves Harry Potter and wanted to come see Quidditch played in real life. "It's just a blast."

Local vendors showed up to keep fans well-fed, setting up shop on the lawn behind Forest Hall. Noonie's Deli and American Flat-

bread, both of Middlebury, sold sandwiches and pizza, respectively, while The Skinny Pancake of Burlington also sent staff down to sell their freshly made crepes. Owls and alpacas were present on the pitch at various times, adding to the magical atmosphere event organizers hoped for.

"The World Cup was phenomenal because everything came together," said Benepe, "between the sunlight breaking through the clouds, the amazing level of commitment, dedication, and turnout from the visiting colleges, [and] all the vendors showing up." A capella groups the Middlebury Mamajamas and Middlebury Mountain Ayres performed, as well as the juggling club, the Middlebury Flying Fists. Campus band Gremlin's Kremlin also performed, as well as a troupe of Irish Step Dancers accompanied by a fiddler.

The tournament itself was double elimination. Boston University and University of Massachusetts were the first two teams eliminated, both falling to Emerson College in their first game. After an initial victory against Chestnut Hill College (CHC), University of Washington fell to Middlebury 50-30, and was knocked out by McGill University in the



Jessica Appelson

After Middlebury knocked off Vassar in the final for the second year in a row — without the benefit of a snitch capture — the teams gathered in a show of Muggle Quidditch unity.

loser's bracket. Princeton University scored a quick victory over McGill, before both fell to the loser's bracket and were swiftly eliminated. Once Ives Pond College fell in a sudden death match against Chestnut Hill, there were six down and six still in.

CHC fought up from their first loss to make it to the final three teams. Beating Emerson in the loser's bracket quarterfinals, CHC advanced to defeat Louisiana State, who had removed Green Mountain College from competition in the quarterfinals. Vassar, who had made an inconspicuous run to the loser's bracket finals, upset an electrified CHC fan section with a surprise snitch grab and a trip to the finals against undefeated Middlebury.

Before the final, Middlebury beater Nick Plugis '11 said the "[Vassar team] looks pretty good, but I think we can take them." Chaser Phil Gordon '11 elaborated, saying that bludger control and counterattacks would be key to victory.

Middlebury flew to a 70-10 lead over Vassar, before the Snitch reappeared on the pitch and the momentum of the game shifted. In Snitch Rainey Johnson '09's last game,

the Vassar Seeker grabbed his sock to end to the game at 70-40 in favor of Middlebury.

Fans were delighted at the event, many sitting on the hill in front of Pearsons Hall for a view of both Quidditch pitches. "The commentators are wonderful," said Jackie Simons of Burlington, there with her 11-year-old daughter Ava. Will Bellaimey '10 and Xander Manshel '09 were a few of the announcers adding colorful commentary to the event, keeping the audience laughing and entertained.

"I liked that it was Middlebury students who invented this," said Professor of Political Science Allison Stanger, who was there with her 9-year-old son Jakub.

In the end, Benepe feels that perhaps the most rewarding part of the experience was when "a mother came up to [him] with her child and said, 'I wanted to thank you for helping my son do well in school. He loves Quidditch so much that he wants to play for the Middlebury team when he grows up, and I told him he would have to get good grades to get in to Middlebury, so now he does all of his homework!'"



Jessica Appelson

Rainey Johnson '09 evades the Vassar and Middlebury seekers. Johnson and other runners played the snitch — the seekers' target — in the second annual Quidditch World Cup.

Election analysis rolled out in lecture

By Jaime Fuller
NEWS EDITOR

Rolling Stone magazine editor Eric Bates gave an opinionated address on the presidential election on Oct. 28 as part of the "Meet the Press" lecture series. Bates spent half-an-hour giving his perspective on the candidates, the campaigns and the mainstream media before relinquishing control of the conversation to the inquisitive audience.

Bates has been executive editor of *Rolling Stone* since February 2008 and recently conducted a one-on-one interview with Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama for the magazine. Previously, he worked as the magazine's political editor, and also has experience as an investigative editor at *Mother Jones* and as editor-in-chief of the political journal *Southern Exposure*.

When Scholar-in-Residence in English Sue Halpern, organizer of "Meet the Press," rose to the podium to introduce the journalist, she recalled the inaugural lecture of the "Meet the Press" series, which occurred exactly four years ago with the same speaker.

"A lot has happened in those four years," she said. "I thought it was only fitting that Eric come back and help sort it all out, and I'm hoping to make it a tradition."

She also gave the audience a disclaimer, noting that last time she remembered that Bates made an incorrect prediction that John Kerry would win the 2004 presidential election.

"Thanks for reminding me how much I suck," Bates responded as he took the podium.

Bates began the lecture by reiterating Halpern's point that much has changed since the last election.

"We tend to look at past elections to predict what is going to happen, but often times the rules have changed."

He argued that this is the reason that Senator Hillary Clinton was unsuccessful in the Democratic primaries, that "playing by the old rulebook" doesn't work when the old rules don't apply anymore.

Obama's success, on the other hand, he believes is a direct result of his ability to respond to the changes in the political climate.

"His path to the election is inspiring," Bates said. "It's a reminder to us that far more is possible than we could ever imagine. He saw that the conditions were such and the rules were changing so he could take advantage of the moment."

However, Bates doesn't take stock in those who cite the polls as an augury of an Obama victory next Tuesday.

"Obama could be 30 points ahead in the polls and we'd still be biting our nails," he said. Republicans never get like that ... but [Democrats] always think something is going to go wrong."

The reason he doesn't trust the polls is because he believes that like the Clintons, the polls are still playing by the old rulebook. He cited the polls' reliance on landlines, their ignorance of new voters and the unknown impact of the Bradley effect as reasons why the public shouldn't get too comfortable with the current media narrative. Despite his distrust of the polls, he still is confident that Obama will be successful on Nov. 4.

"The Republicans really only have two things going for them this election: racism and

the ability to rig the vote."

Bates believes despite the Republicans' dominance in politics over the past few decades, that this election is going to recreate the political landscape in the Democratic Party's favor in a way not seen since the era of the Great Depression. What is even more important, according to Bates, is that larger shifts are happening in the American electorate. Some he sees as positive and diversity enriching, such as the impending loss of majority status for whites and the increase of unmarried and alternative families in the populace. The shift he finds more worrisome is the increasing homogeneity of the electorate.

"The world is starting to look like the Internet," he said. "People are only grouping together with like minded people and they don't have any idea what the other group is like or about."

He then turned the discussion to the possible problems of an Obama presidency.

"There is eight years worth of pent-up Democratic energy where they didn't get jack done," he said. "Now [Democrats] are going to have their hand in the cookie jar, and Obama's going to have to manage this. The Democrats could easily blow it."

He also noted that Republicans should be glad that they might lose the majority in Congress, as it would "restore [them] to the job they were meant to do—the opposition."

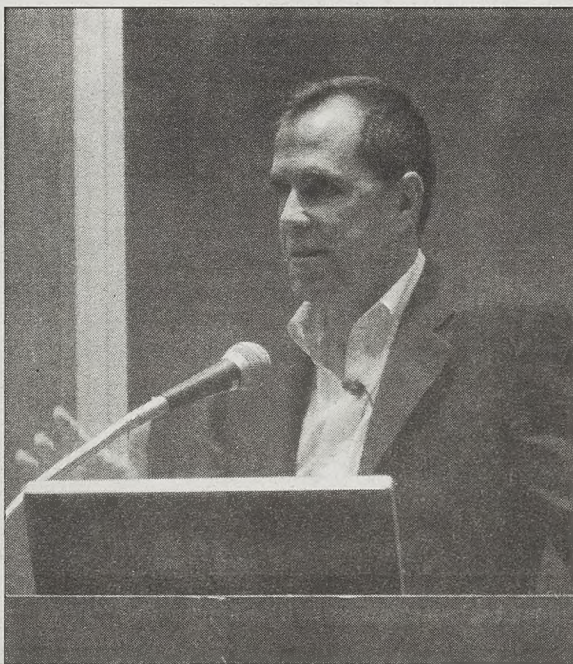
"Republicans don't believe in government," he said. "They really suck at government, but they don't suck at being the opposition. They're really good at that."

At the end of the lecture, when the audience assumed the role of the press, many topics were discussed, including the nomination of Governor Sarah Palin, the potential for bipartisan action in an

Obama administration and the role of David Axelrod in the Obama campaign. He ended with an analysis of journalistic responsibility in the political process, and the changing role of the mainstream media in an increasingly cacophonous arena of media outlets and opinions. His conclusion is that despite criticism that the media is biased, the media has "done a good job," and that fairness, not objectivity, should be the goal of journalism.

"The media plays a role in being combative, skeptical, funny and occasionally tasteless," he said. "The media puts things into perspective in a way candidates can't."

The "Meet the Press" lecture series is presented by the Middlebury College Institute on Working Journalism and is designed to bring distinguished journalists to offer their experience and opinion to the campus community. The event was co-sponsored by Brainerd Commons and the Department of English and American Literatures.



Grace Duggan
Rolling Stone editor Eric Bates helps his audience explore the relationship of media, politics and partisanship.

Tobacco laws may have pushed pot out of doors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The drop in drug law violations, however, may be more attributable to a change in collective student behavior than to a particular offender. Between 2005 and 2007, the number of drug law violations dropped from 51 to 37 on campus and from ten to three on public property.

According to Boudah, defining drug law violations, particularly with marijuana, can be complicated for Public Safety. If students are found with new paraphernalia — such as an unused smoking pipe — Vermont state law stipulates that the owners of the items are not guilty of a crime. If, however, the found paraphernalia is used, the owners are cited with a drug law violation.

"A few years ago, students were allowed

to smoke cigarettes in their residence halls," Boudah said. "But since indoor smoking was banned, the number of drug law violations may have decreased because students may not be smoking marijuana in the residence halls as much anymore."

The Federal government does not require that the College classify which drug law violations are inside and which are outside, so Boudah thinks that more marijuana violations have taken place outside since the cigarette laws changed. If more students are smoking marijuana outdoors, she continued, then it is likely that more students smoke without getting caught.

"Maybe there really were fewer people smoking marijuana in 2007," Boudah said. "But there are students who choose to smoke marijuana who are not found."

college shorts

by Denizhan Duran, Staff Writer

Juicy controversy erupts at Williams

Similar to Middlebury Confessional, the Web site that aggravated much of the student body last spring, Williams College is now beleaguered by JuicyCampus, a controversial online gossip forum that started a page for the college on Sept. 30. Williams Associate Dean for Institutional Diversity Wendy Raymond declared the site a means for "community destruction," calling those who use it to post gossip anonymously "irresponsible, immature and self-focused."

Many posts mentioned specific students by their names, and although students were relieved to discover that the posts did not come up on Google searches, they were not pleased to see their names on such a public forum, which, unlike Middlebury Confessional, is accessible to everyone using the Internet. There is a consensus at Williams that action must be taken against the site, but the administration is also sensitive to students' first amendment rights.

—The Williams Record

Accident at Harvard produces black silicon

Eric Mazur, a professor of Physics at Harvard University, created black silicon by accident with his assistants. While working on semiconductors on a grant from the Army Research Office, one of his graduate students unearthed a tiny bottle of gas that Mazur used when he was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard. The gas, which was stable, was put in a chamber with silicon wafers and was shot with short and intense laser pulses. The black silicon thus created is ultra-sensitive to light and may be used in devices from night-vision goggles to photovoltaic solar panels.

The black silicon had phenomenal light absorption sensitivity in both the visible and infrared regions, according to Mazur. By contrast, normal silicon does not readily absorb infrared light. Black silicon could allow patients to be subjected to less radiation during medical imaging, enabling physicians to produce better images with less damage to the patient's health. Given the breadth of products that black silicon could be used for, Mazur said, it's evident that semiconductors have wide commercial applications.

—The Harvard Crimson

Departmental merger saves U. Arizona money

The University of Arizona Transformation Plan resulted in its first merger this week with the consolidation of the chemistry, biochemistry and molecular biophysics departments.

Although the university's senate was hesitant to back the transformation process, the relevant faculties were in support of the merger. The departments would be untouched and "continue business as usual," said Mark Smith, head of the Chemistry Department. The change will save approximately \$200,000, and combined research will also heavily boost the department's national recognition.

The new department will also attract \$16 million in annual federal research, according to Johnny Cruz, media relations director for the university. Bigger will truly mean better for the department, as the chemistry, biochemistry and molecular biophysics faculty will pool resources and ideas to become a more efficient entity, Smith added, and will be UA's third-largest teaching program.

—Arizona Daily Wildcat

public safety log

October 20 - October 26, 2008

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
10/21/2008	1:55 p.m.	Theft	Purse/Partial Recovery	KDR	No Suspects
10/22/2008	11:00 a.m.	Drug Violation	Paraphernalia Pipe	Pearsons	Referred to Dean of the College
10/22/2008	11:30 p.m.	Disturbance	Noise Complaint	KDR	Referred to Dean of the College
10/23/2008	1:35 p.m.	Drug Violation	Paraphernalia, Possession	Milliken	Referred to Commons Dean
10/24/2008	12:30 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
10/24/2008	8:30 a.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machine	Gifford	No Suspects
10/24/2008	10:15 a.m.	Vandalism	Structure	Milliken	Open
10/25/2008	11:50 p.m.	Disturbance	Noise Complaint	KDR	Referred to Commons Dean
10/25/2008	11:30 a.m.	Theft	Guitar and Guitar Case	Hepburn	Open
10/26/2008	6:11 p.m.	Theft	Recovered Stolen Bike	Atwater Dining Hall	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 8 alcohol citations between October 20 and October 26.



overseas briefing

Sorry, that was "shinty" you said, right?

by Mike Bayersdorfer '10

Ever heard of shinty? Probably not — and that wouldn't be that terribly surprising, either. Shinty is a game played in the highlands of Scotland and at some universities and cities in the lowlands, but its reach is pretty much limited to Scotland. If you know what Irish hurling is, it's similar to that. If you have no idea what I'm talking about, imagine a field hockey field but longer, field hockey nets but taller, a bald tennis ball filled with cork, sticks that look like a combination of a golf club and an ice hockey stick, and twelve players a side. The game play is similar to ice hockey — basically anything goes as long as you're not clubbing your opponent over the head with your stick.

It's a massively entertaining game to play; I had never heard of the game before coming over here, but ended up going to a practice with the team and loved it. I caught on rather quickly — a lifetime spent playing ice hockey turned out to be rather helpful for learning shinty. Three weeks later, I was starting for the St. Andrews A side against the second best team in Scotland — the University of Edinburgh. There's certainly no love lost between St. Andrews and Edinburgh on the shinty pitch — Edinburgh is St. Andrews' biggest rival, and last year Edinburgh won 21-4 and did not endear themselves to St. Andrews with their actions during or after the win. Since I was one of only two new starters on the team, almost everyone on the pitch remembered last year's match and seemed pretty intent on making Edinburgh remember it too.

After hearing all this, I wasn't sure what to expect from the match. When we jumped out to a 2-0 lead 25 minutes into the first half, I was confused and excited; this is not how I expected the game to play out, but I wasn't going to complain. For the next 65 minutes of play, we clung desperately to a small lead — which was 3-2 for the last ten minutes — as Edinburgh peppered our defense with shots. When the final whistle blew, the St. Andrews side went crazy; not only had we beaten our main rival, but I also later found out that the St. Andrews men's shinty team had not won any game in the last ten years. The celebration on the field was quite a sight — most of the players never thought they'd get the chance to win any game, let alone do it against Edinburgh.

I can't exactly say what I expected showing up in Scotland for a semester, but I'm pretty sure I didn't imagine doing something like this — playing the local sport and helping my team pull off an incredible upset against one of the best teams in the country. Shinty is a great game though, because it's the perfect Scottish game. Shinty reflects, to a certain extent, the Scottish people themselves. It appears violent and hectic and complicated, but once you involve yourself with it and see it up close, you realize that it's a simple game, and what might seem like excesses to the casual observer are simply exuberance from the joy of playing the game, and knowing that it's really all about just having a little fun.

Efforts redoubled as campaign closes

By Adam Schaffer
STAFF WRITER

With the Nov. 4 presidential election rapidly approaching, College Republicans and Democrats are scrambling to convince undecided voters to come out for their candidates.

College Democrats gathered Oct. 24 in the Hillcrest Environmental Center to make phone calls to potential supporters of Democratic nominee Barack Obama. Their work was facilitated by an interactive program on Obama's web site, which gave volunteers phone numbers, a script and methods to classify voters' plans for Election Day. The calls were not focused on influencing voters, however, as Hillary Aidun '12 explained.

"We're doing ID calls, trying to identify voters who the Obama campaign should focus their attention on by classifying their level of support for either candidate, saving [the campaign] time and money," she said.

Will Bellaimey '10, co-president of the Middlebury College Democrats, nevertheless encourages his volunteers to engage in a conversation about their candidate given a chance.

"People have woken up from the post-9/11 fear," he said. "Our candidate no longer suffers from an identity crisis, and the organization is much better. We're winning the ground game—we have offices in all fifty states."

The replies received by the Middlebury student callers from possible supporters were mixed. Responses ranged from one man who claimed to be voting for Mickey Mouse to another who changed his party affiliation for the first time in 50 years for Obama.

Despite the energy in the room, fellow co-president George Altshuler '10 reiterated that the election is not yet over.

"I feel good, but I'm still nervous. This election is too important to let up [campaigning]," he said.

Not all students seemed to agree, however, as the Wednesday night event only drew about 15 students. Altshuler, Bellaimey and the College Democrats will continue phone banking until Election Day.

Despite the liberal bent of the campus, the College Republicans also are involved in

supporting their candidate, Senator John McCain. They plan to travel to New Hampshire to campaign this weekend.

As Heather Pangle, president of the College Republicans explained, it would be ineffective for the group to campaign in Vermont.

"Campaigning in Vermont would be about as useful as the College Democrats campaigning in Texas," she said.

While Obama is pulling ahead in the polls, Pangle has not lost hope for her candidate.

"It isn't over until it's over. Anything could happen — between now and the election, or on Election Day," she said. "As people get into the voting booth [they'll] ask themselves whether they really want to put the presidency in the hands of the most liberal, inexperienced candidate in memory."

The Nov. 4 election also includes some highly controversial propositions, such as Prop. 8 in California. College Dems are making phone calls opposing the proposition, which would limit marriage to male-female couples. The Republicans are not involved.

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Bert Johnson noted the high level of youth involvement nationally.

"There is certainly a lot of excitement about this election," he said. "[However] will it swing the election? It looks like it won't be that close ... but it certainly helps that there are a lot of young people out there working."

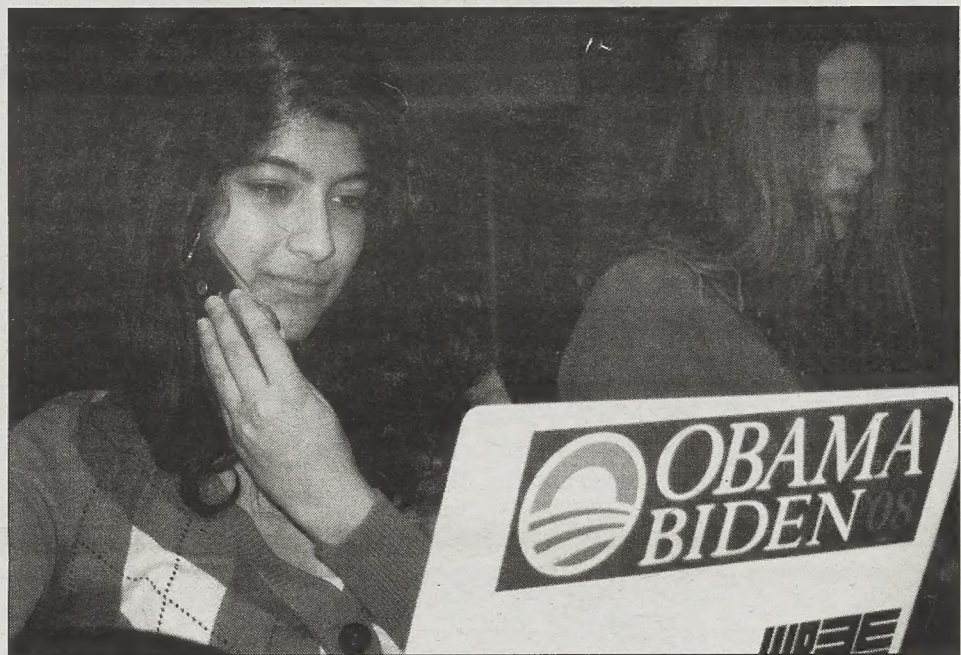
Nevertheless, as many students on campus have noted, involvement is not especially high; College Republicans had fewer than ten members campaigning.

Some students, such as Tom Campanella '12 say, "there just aren't enough opportunities for conservatives to get involved."

Even liberal students are not especially involved, as Clare Vance '12 noted.

"You don't see massive protests, or pro-Obama or -McCain rallies here," she said. It seems like students [at Middlebury] don't feel the need to convince each other because we all share such similar views."

Regardless of the reasons for the low level of campus involvement, Johnson believes "it's hard to blame busy people [on campus] for not getting involved. It's the duty of our leaders to inspire us to get involved in politics."



Alex Lin-Moore

Simran Bhalla '11, left, and Leah Bevis '09 were among Democrats phone banking Oct. 24.

Global health minor gains traction

By Michael Suen
STAFF WRITER

2007 Leahy Global Health Scholar Harriet Napier '12.5 spent part of her first semester volunteering at an emergency housing shelter for underprivileged infants in Romania. "I have experienced, first hand, children who have been denied their right to appropriate medical help because of governmental restrictions or a lack of money," wrote Napier, in her essay submission to the Global Health Council, the largest membership alliance dedicated to international healthcare and based in Vermont. "I want to help change these restrictions so that poor/orphaned children can have the same rights that other children do."

Napier and other students' advocacy of global health issues reflects a growing enthusiasm for the subject, at Middlebury and other colleges nationwide. As an interdisciplinary topic, global health investigates health problems and their impact on the world's political, social and economic situations.

On Oct. 17, Dean of Curriculum Robert Cluss outlined in a blog post on One Dean's View the possibility of formalizing such interest as an academic minor.

"There is a growing interest in pursuing global health as an area of academic interest at Middlebury," said Cluss. "Just last week, the Curriculum Committee approved a proposal for an Independent Scholar major in Medical Anthropology and Public Health."

Students have remarked on the subject's potential within a liberal arts framework.

"I feel like the field of global health really embodies Middlebury's values of global citizenship, service and interdisciplinary problem solving, kind of like a progressive liberal arts

program," said Hannah Burnett '10, a global health independent scholar major currently studying abroad at the University College London.

The movement to make global health a minor is still only in planning stages.

"We brainstormed a list of courses that might be included, as well as the relevant faculty," said Marty Schnure '10.5, a founder of the Global Health Table lunch discussion group. "We are looking to organize a meeting with professors in the coming weeks."

Already this year, five students are applying for independent scholar majors with a focus on global health. Proposed curriculums draw from the sociology/anthropology, political science, economics, philosophy, geography and natural science disciplines, and also include a study abroad component focusing on healthcare research.

Similar programs are already offered at Brown University, Georgetown University and the University of California.

"Everyday we hear about malaria, avian flu, AIDS/HIV, and it's a huge problem, especially considering globalization," said Laurel Chor, an international health major at Georgetown. "More and more students across campuses are starting to realize we have to start doing something about it."

For the most part, faculty and administration response has been highly positive to the idea of a global health curriculum.

"The students that I have had the pleasure to talk to are extremely excited," said Cluss. "There also seems to be broad interest that fits well with our Liberal Arts Global Action mission. The faculty that I have spoken with have been supportive and are already working

closely with students on planning curricula."

Students involved in the Middlebury global health initiative also applauded the subject's growing trend, both on college campuses and in society as a whole, citing its importance not only in improving healthcare around the world, but also in unveiling social, political and ethical problems.

"I think the growing popularity of this topic is imperative to many of the global issues at hand, particularly sustainable development," said Nora Hirozawa '11, a student planning her global health curriculum.

"I think the topic's increasing popularity is wonderful and long overdue," added Katherine Bass '11, another independent scholar awaiting approval. "Development can't happen without healthcare — people can't think about making money or fitting themselves into the pre-existing systems if they are sick and their children are dying."

"I think it also makes a lot of sense that health is becoming more central in the general social consciousness because of the growing rates of chronic disease in this country," she said. "Epidemics like diabetes and obesity that are crushing local and national health care systems are bringing to light the effects an unhealthy population can have on any community or state."

Beyond the academic realm, the Global Health Table, started last spring by Schnure, Burnett, Perrin Romine '10 and Maggie Bale '10, also provides a venue of discussion for interested students and professors with relevant experience. Averaging ten students weekly, the group plans to hold a Global Public Health Symposium, to further promote awareness in the College community.

Are you afraid of Vermont?



Rediscovering local legends of ghosts and gore

— by Alice Bennett, Staff Writer

Each year on Oct. 31, children dressed as witches and vampires go house-to-house, collecting tricks and treats from porches adorned with paper ghosts and jack-o-lanterns. Such traditions define the distinctly American holiday, yet we often forget about the supernatural legends that lie at the heart of Halloween. Telling the tales of ghosts and demons is a dying practice that one Vermonter is seeking to revive. At Vergennes Bixby Memorial Library's Third Annual Spook Night, Joe Citro shared local legends with a diverse audience, helping to perpetuate an oral tradition which has all but disappeared. Citro, an author from Chester, Vt., has compiled several collections of New England ghost stories that were once considered common folklore.

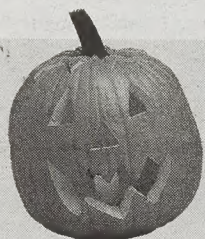
"A hundred years ago we would make a point of telling each other these stories. Now they are kind of lost," said Citro.

Citro began compiling these legends while doing research for a novel. In the process, Citro discovered that such tales were largely uncollected and missing from popular culture. Since this realization, Citro has written many anthologies of ghost stories, including "Green Mountains," "Dark Tales," "Passing Strange" and "Weird New England," all of which feature collections of tales gathered from the New England area.

Through performing public readings of his written work, Citro has found that the sharing of local legends has the ability to connect a room full of people. After telling a series of ghost stories, Citro often asks his audience to share their own experiences with the unexplainable and invites them to ask questions.

At Spook Night, when asked whether he himself believes in the legends he shares, Citro replied, "Belief is a weird thing ... I don't know that it is important that we believe these stories ... Ghosts and monsters are not really part of my belief system at all, but stories as themselves and the adrenaline rush they give us are real." For this reason, Citro shares with Vermonters stories of the spirits that have plagued their communities in the past, reviving an important Halloween tradition by scaring new generations with old legends like the ones summarized in this section.

continued on page 6



Gobbling up goodies

Middlebury proper's hottest eateries are stirring up a storm of delicious Halloween treats, page 6.

Crisis Crunch

Low-income Vermonters are getting squeezed in the economic recession, putting pressure on social welfare programs, page 7.

Get your freak on

Middlebury's first annual Spooktacular parades down Main Street, page 7.



Local expert divulges historical tales of the paranormal

continued from page 5

Buried with a bell

When he lived, Timothy Clark Smith was a member of the Foreign Service. In his various travels around the world he developed an all-consuming fear of being buried alive. In 1856 he returned to Vermont to visit his relatives and rented a room in the Middlebury Inn. On that fateful trip, Smith died in his hotel room and his family, seeking to act in accordance with his phobia, hoped to leave his body untouched to ensure he was truly dead. They behaved as if Timothy



Alice Bennett

still lived, continuing to rent the room to house the now-decaying corpse of Timothy Smith. This arrangement persisted for some time until the rank odor of rotting flesh prompted local authorities to intercede, and the Smiths were forced to remove Smith from his room. Still conscious of their loved one's fear and acting out of their own fears that he might one day awake from a premature burial, the Smith family constructed a unique grave in the Evergreen Cemetery of New Haven, Vt. Thus, while the tombstone of

Timothy Clark Smith stands among the graves of the family plot, his body does not lay beneath it. Instead, his corpse can be found beneath a mound of earth adjacent to the cluster of gravestones: a grassy hill that contains at its summit a window that looks into the ground. The glass is now covered with a film of grime and bacteria, but if one's gaze could penetrate the coating of filth, one would see the decaying corpse of Timothy and a rusted bell which his family had placed in his decomposing hand just in case he awoke. As far as it is known, the bell has yet to sound and the corpse of Timothy Clark Smith continues to lay in silence as it has since he died on the night of Halloween in 1856.

The ax-murderer

It was common knowledge in Corinth, Vt. that the elderly Sarah Bowen had a treasure of gold coins stored somewhere within her farmhouse. One night the Bowen household was set aflame. When citizens of the town reached the property to help put out the fire, they were



Courtesy

shocked to discover Sarah dead with an axe in her head. The public was sure that she had been murdered in a robbery attempt — a guess that was all but made certain when no gold was recovered in the house. Although Sarah's neighbors arrived too late to prevent her death, they succeeded in dousing the flames that ravaged her property. Consequently, new owners soon moved into the old farmhouse. Male residents and visitors alike often experienced a peculiar sight. They would hear three sharp thuds in succession and then see the image of an elderly woman in old-fashioned garb appear suddenly only to glide off through the walls of the house. The woman was the ghost of the murdered Sarah Bowen and the thuds that announced her arrival simulated the striking of an axe into her head.

Gun in the basement

In 1982, Tony Basiliere purchased a home in Milton, Vt. from a woman who had recently lost her husband. After moving into the house with his wife and young son, Basiliere went about inspecting the house, making sure it provided a safe environment for his child. Although he worked hard to make his new household secure, he and his wife began to be plagued by feelings of unease. Moreover, strange things began to occur around the property. The cupboards, for instance, refused to remain closed even after Basiliere worked diligently to make them level. The Basiliere family often felt as though they were accompanied by an invisible presence. One day, when Basiliere was looking out onto the yard, a transparent image of an elderly man appeared. The old man stood motionless, giving Basiliere a chance to recognize him as the ghost of the previous owner who had recently died. Soon after, a puddle of water materialized on the basement floor. Although the leak seemed to come from the upper levels of the house, Basiliere was unable to discover the source of the mysterious puddle. In order to better examine the pipes, Basiliere removed a wooden panel in the basement. There, hidden in a space behind the panel, easily within reach of his young son, Basiliere found a German semiautomatic — a gun that could only have belonged to the previous owner. Following Basiliere's discovery, the old ghost seemed to desert the household. He had succeeded in preventing Basiliere's child from ever happening upon the gun that he had ostensibly left behind.

Train tragedy

Marie Blais worked for the Queen City Cotton Mill in Burlington until a tragic accident cut her life short. One day, Marie was returning to work with her sister and a close friend after having taken a short break. At the railroad tracks, the girls decided to make a dash for the other side, despite the fast-approaching train just ahead. Two of the girls made it across unscathed, but Marie, unable to move quickly enough, was thrown 75 feet in the air, her body landing in a mangled heap by the tracks. After she died, Marie's ghost refused to desert the Burlington area and she haunted the railroad that claimed her life. Large objects would materialize on the train tracks just as a train was approaching, only to vanish after the train had either slowed down or stopped in order to avoid hitting them. The lights at the front of trains flickered eerily whenever they reached the location where Marie had been struck. Citizens of the Burlington area repeatedly reported hearing screams emitted from the very same spot along the tracks. There was no doubt as to whose spirit was causing such unnatural events after one engineer reported seeing Marie standing beside the rails on each trip he made from Burlington to Rutland. Traumatized by Marie's presence, the engineer ultimately left his job. In recent years, Marie Blais, publicly recognized as the Cotton Mill ghost, has been gradually forgotten, but the tracks upon which she was brutally killed remain.



Courtesy

Local Flavor goes trick-or-tasting downtown

By Nicole Lam
STAFF WRITER

The week before Halloween, festive treats and goodies fill up Middlebury shops and restaurants as everyone gets in gear for the holiday. Instead of reaching for the typical candy corn, orange and black M&M's, and orange caramel-filled chocolates sold in supermarkets like Shaw's, check out the bakeries and cafes on Main Street selling homemade, delicious Halloween treats.

In celebration of Halloween, Otter Creek Bakery has brought out a basket filled with vanilla and chocolate butter cookies shaped like Halloween characters that have enthralled us since childhood. In the shape of cats, witches, and bats, these cookies are sprinkled with orange sugar that emanates a subtle orange-peel spice. The crunchy cookies are wrapped in plastic gift bags, tied with orange and black ribbon, making them a

simple Halloween gift or an easy-to-go snack. In addition, the bakery is accepting orders now for their infamous sourdough "bat bread." With cherry kisses for the eyes and a piece

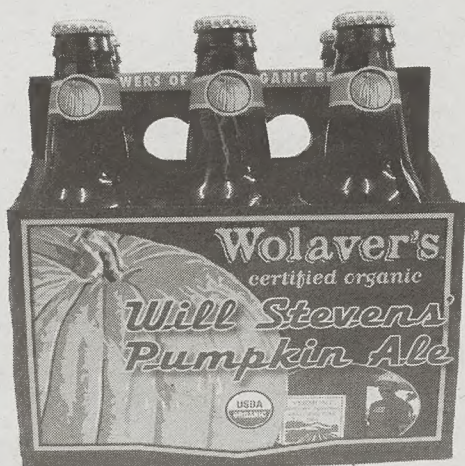
of almond for the mouth, this two-pound sourdough loaf is a delightful favorite. If you are looking to satisfy your sweet tooth, go for the decadent pumpkin-raspberry cheesecake. Exquisitely adorned with raspberries and dripping with sauce, this cheesecake is not too sweet, but still flavorful with rich notes of pumpkin. Two Brothers Tavern is also joining in the festivities by hosting a Halloween Ball featuring a band called The Horse Trader. The band is known for playing 80's and 90's music. The whole bottom floor dance room will be decorated with spider webs and hay stacks to fit the occasion. There will be costume and pumpkin-carving contests to check out when taking a break from dancing. Candy will be doled out as always for trick-or-treating and there may be goblin cookies as well. Kristin Bittrolf, the floor manager, hopes for goblin cookies and marshmallows. There will not be any changes in the dining menu or drink specials but with the band, decorations and music, Two Brothers Tavern will provide a fun, spooky night.

If you are thinking of heading to Shaws to buy your Halloween sugar fix, cross the street and check out the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op first. Next to the cashiers, there is a table stocked with baskets of nutty dark chocolate ghosts and witch hats. There are also chocolate lollipops glazed in orange icing adorably shaped into smiling pumpkin faces. Underneath the orange sign that says "Look for the goblin in you" are packages of chocolate coins covered in orange wrapping and one-pound pumpkin heads made completely out of chocolate.

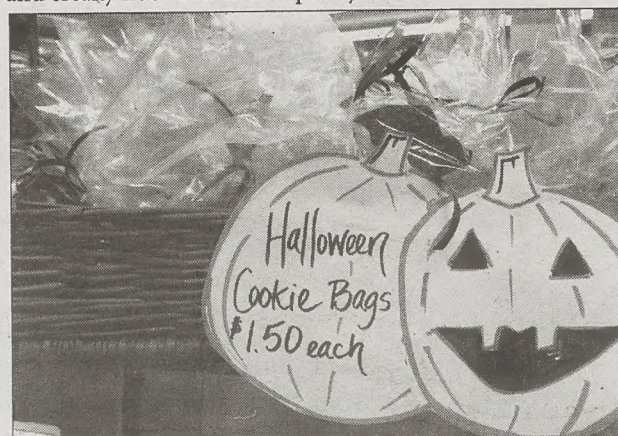
For those of age, Halloween night would not be complete without imbibing a few Wolaver's Will Stevens' Pumpkin Ale. The autumn brew is named after Will Stevens of Golden Russet Farming in Shoreham, Vt. The Stevens family has been growing organic vegetables and flowers for over 25 years and

in the true spirit localvore movement infiltrating Middlebury, the farm is located less than 15 miles away from the brewery. According to Kate Corrigan, marketing assistant at Otter Creek Brewery, the beer is brewed with Stevens' organic pumpkins, spices, and organic hops and malt. The pumpkins are first baked and skinned, then converted into a pulpy mash that imbues the beer with its delightfully hearty pumpkin flavor.

Finally, at American Flatbread, the staff plans to dress up for the occasion. The Wizard of Oz was a theme three years ago. The restaurant will definitely have apple and pumpkin pie and is considering popcorn balls. The food and drinks menu have not been determined yet for Halloween but the setting of the restaurant already makes one feel like they are feasting in a haunted castle. The oven glows in the background while a black cauldron heats up tomato sauce. The wooden ceiling and creaky floor add to the spooky touch.



Courtesy



Nicole Lam

Recession wreaks welfare havoc

By Amanda Cormier
STAFF WRITER

As the worldwide financial crisis deepens, Vermont social welfare programs have witnessed an influx of low-income residents seeking help to make ends meet. Across the state, health care and home heating have risen to the forefront of concern.

The Vermont Coalition of Clinics for the Uninsured (VCCU), an organization of nine free health clinics across the state and funded by the Vermont Department of Health, experienced a 20 percent increase in patients from July to September 2008, according to Executive Director Lynn Raymond-Empey.

Raymond-Empey said that she does not expect this trend to stop any time soon.

"I think we're going to see a new segment of the population contacting the clinics and me over the next several months because people are going to have to make some choices," she said. "Do I purchase heating oil for my house, food for my family, or do I pay my insurance premium which I may or may not be using over the coming months?"

Free clinics offer referral services and health care to the uninsured in Vermont, which is comprised of about 60,000 people, according to the Vermont Campaign for Healthcare Security Education Fund. Raymond-Empey said that the high number of small businesses in Vermont contributes to this statistic.

In Middlebury, the Open Door Clinic operates on Exchange Street. As the only free clinic associated with the VCCU in Addison County, a staff of volunteer healthcare providers, nurses and community members provide services ranging from treatment of injury to mental health counseling.

According to the Addison County Inde-

pendent, visits to the Middlebury clinic have risen in the past few months, fueling support to re-open a clinic in Vergennes that closed last year. A new Open Door Clinic, funded by the Community Health Services of Addison County, opened in Vergennes Oct. 23. The clinic will be open every other Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m.

Raymond-Empey said that although she hopes that there will someday be no need for free clinics because the entire state is insured, she understands the state's unique economic situation.

"We recognize that there are a lot of small employers in Vermont that can't afford to provide health insurance to folks," she said. "What we do see is a state that's really, really trying hard to fill that gap and make sure our population is covered with health care insurance."

The state of Vermont has three adult health care programs: Medicaid, the Vermont Health Access Program and Catamount. Free clinics try to make up for what employers and the state cannot cover, but Raymond-Empey said that providing adequate funding to the clinics is problematic — especially at a time when the demand for the services free clinics offer is increasing.

According to Raymond-Empey, the grant the clinics receive from the Department of Health has remained the same through the past few years. The VCCU also received and relied upon a generous donation from an independent organization each year.

But this year, the organization decided instead to donate to a fund to help low-income Vermonters heat their homes.

This fund — the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) — was designed to help residents at or below 125

percent of the federal poverty level pay winter heating bills. On Oct. 22, state legislators announced an expansion of the program to help fund full fuel benefits for an additional 1,050 residents.

Although health care remains a concern for low-income residents, the economy's effects on heating oil may be easier to fathom. University of Vermont professor Elaine McCrate said that the expansion of LIHEAP and the plummeting price of oil offer a glimmer of hope to low-income Vermonters. But McCrate, a labor economist who has worked with Vermont legislature on livable wages, said that the low price of oil may be only temporary.

"Heating oil is likely to be much cheaper this winter than we expected," she said. "It doesn't mean it's going to be cheaper than last year. And OPEC is meeting to restrict output and raise the price again. But if something similar [to the decreasing price of gasoline] happens with home heating oil, it's the only bright spot I can see at the moment, and I don't know how long that's going to last."

McCrates said that the housing meltdown is also likely to have a considerable impact on low-income Vermonters looking for rental housing, with increasing foreclosures leading to a more crowded and expensive rental market.

In the end, she said, the contrast between Vermont's wages and cost of housing will intensify under the financial meltdown, affecting all residents.

"The problem for Vermonters is that while we have a relatively high cost of housing, which is not going down here the same way that it is in a lot of cities, we also have relatively low wages," she said. "Between those two, Vermonters get squeezed pretty hard."

local lowdown

Lighted Pumpkin Patch

Oct. 30, 6-8 p.m.

Come celebrate the fall at the Middlebury pumpkin patch near Helen Porter Nursing Home. Hot cider and Halloween cookies will be served, come add to the display with your own carved pumpkins.

"Smokey Joe's Café" at Town Hall Theater

Oct. 30, 31 and Nov. 1, 8 p.m.,
Nov. 2, 2 p.m.

This hot Broadway musical features songs from the 50s and 60s by Lieber and Stoller, and includes "On Broadway," "Spanish Harlem" and "Stand By Me." A smokin' band and the best Vermont talent promise a fun night going to the theater. Tickets \$15.

Call (802) 382-9222 or email tickets@townhalltheater.org

"A Wedding to Die For"

Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m.

A "whodunnit" presented by the Brandon Town Players, "A Wedding to Die For" will be performed at the Brandon Inn. There will be a cash bar at 5:30 p.m. as well as a buffet dinner at 6 p.m., before the show. For more information, call (802) 247-6660 or (802) 345-3033.

Bread Loaf trails clean-up party

Nov. 1

Volunteers are welcome to come help the Green Mountain Club spruce up trails in the Bread Loaf Section, please contact Chip Morgan, (802) 388-9868.

Latin American Novel Lecture

Nov. 5, 5 and 7 p.m.

Amherst professor Ilan Stavans will give a lecture on Gabriel García Márquez's "One Hundred Years of Solitude," perhaps the single most influential novel of Latin American culture. Ilsley Public Library will be hosting this event that is sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council.

"Remember Remember the Fifth of November"

Nov. 5

Come visit Fort Ticonderoga to learn about Guy Fawkes Night and the celebrate this 18th century historical figure. Details TBA. (518) 585-2821. www.fort-ticonderoga.org

Spooktacular event haunts Middlebury

— photos by Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor, and Judy Jiad



Not all Halloween costumes are scary, especially this cuddly giraffe. Middlebury residents of all ages came out in droves to participate in the first Annual Spooktacular Halloween Parade. (left)



This ghoulish ghost surveys his options as he draws his treat from a basket of goodies. Despite the dreary weather, many shop-owners sat out on their stoops to pass out candy. (right)



A biker's gruff painted-on beard cannot disguise his excitement at the day's events. Candy, costumes and fun drew a grin on this child's face. (left)

The Middlebury Campus

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Editorial

Obama for President, and for our generation

The long, arduous trail to the White House will reach its conclusion this week, with Election Day serving as the summit that will motivate the American electorate through the final days of the uphill climb that is partisan presidential politics. On this greatest of days for American democracy, we enthusiastically endorse Senator Barack Obama for the office of President of the United States. While we respect Senator John McCain's service to his country and the United States Senate, we feel that Senator Obama epitomizes the ideals that Middlebury holds dear. He is intellectually curious, an able communicator, and understands the value of community. We do not endorse Senator Obama to rubber stamp his candidacy in this generally liberal atmosphere; we support his candidacy because we feel he is the candidate that best understands the challenges that this country will confront, and that our generation must overcome.

Symbolically, Senator Obama's election would also turn the page from the current Bush administration, which we feel has failed to lead our country in the right direction these past eight years. The most senior class at the College, the February Admissions Class of 2008, arrived on campus only two weeks after President George W. Bush's second inauguration in 2005. The political climate of that time dispirited many young people hoping to affect political change, and spawned a great deal of activism these past four years. This election embodies that change, as issues that are important to Middlebury students are at the forefront of the debate.

The candidates' positions on the challenges this country will face have been well documented in the press and these pages, and while these are of great import, our decision to support Senator Obama is firmly grounded in his impact for our generation. His economic plan is a refreshing break from the current administration's, and should be more sustainable. Stepping out from behind the veil of ignorance, we also realize it could have tangible effects on recent Middlebury alumni who will be paying taxes as non-dependants for the first time, in tax brackets far below the much discussed top five percent. And while Senator Obama's approach to rebuilding our financial institutions is not yet apparent, we trust his executive abilities.

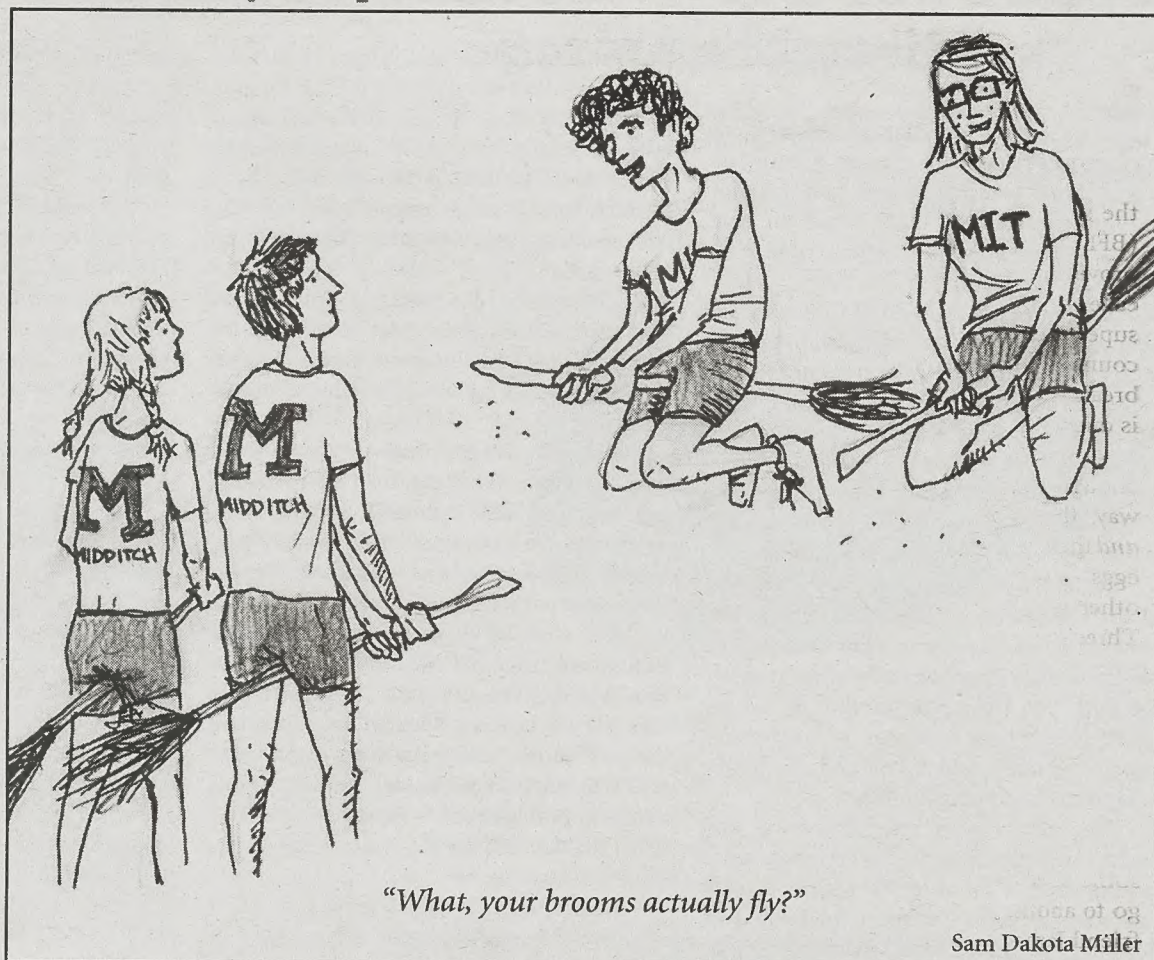
Senator Obama's call to service for young people resonates with us. We have yet to face a generational challenge along the lines of a military draft or even a race to the moon to unite us; we believe Senator Obama has the ability to inspire this unity as our country faces an unraveling economy and looming environmental crisis.

Regardless of the candidates, we also celebrate the democratic process that will anoint one of them on Tuesday. This fall has brought interest and excitement in politics that our country has sorely lacked with regard to important decisions in our recent past. For proof, consider the surge in interest for *Saturday Night Live's* political satire. The activity on campus has also been commendable with the College Republicans, Democrats, and non-partisan organizations like the Roosevelt Institution and MiddVote taking the lead. We applaud the effort of these groups and all Middlebury students that have taken the time out of their busy academic schedules to fulfill their civic duty. It is often said that "This election is the most important of all time," and while we resent that declaration's decay towards cliché, we do acknowledge that what happens on Tuesday will have a profound impact on both the immediate future of the United States and our collective future.

contact the campus

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Sam Dakota Miller

Notes from the desk: Andrea Glaessner

The precipitous decline of newspapers

On the Web site for the *New York Times*, "maureen dowd" was the number 10 most-searched item in the last 30 days and "krugman" made number seven. "Ayers" was number 24 and "stock market" rolled in at 50. Shame on you, Mr. Obama, for believing that Americans would rather read about relevant issues than your secret terrorist agenda. Apparently, we prefer Dowd's oral vomit to factual coverage of the economic crisis. Or, maybe news consumers know better than to read the *New York Times* for anything more than Dowd's wildly entertaining musings on the soap opera that is the life of Sarah Palin.

Perhaps the fact that *Times* readers demand Dowd over the Dow says less about Dowd than it does about the quality of coverage on the economic recession. In an interview with Professor David Colander about the economic recession, Colander expressed his disgust with coverage of the economic crisis in the mainstream media to me. "Most reporters have no idea what is actually going on," said Colander.

As American newspapers slash foreign bureaus, cut back on staff and "World's Fattest Man Weds" is considered a story by the *Chicago Tribune*, the future of the newspaper is spiraling off into a black hole. Who will salvage it before it is too late? Let's hope it's not "Joe Blogger" and the rest of the outsiders electronically divulging their innermost thoughts and calling it investigative reporting.

Today, most journalists argue that the newspaper is a failed business model. They throw their hands up in despair over www.Craigslist.com's assault on classified newspaper advertising. According to Chuck Strum, managing editor of *The New York Times*, the *Times*

earned \$120 million in classified ad revenues in 1999. By 2007, that number had shrunk to \$30 million. Newspapers will never be able to make up for the profits lost to *Craig's List*.

Perhaps I am being idealistic, but is there not some way newspapers can put up a fight by boosting quality rather than cutting it? Strum argued that there will always be a demand for coverage of the way things are and not how they should be. But where is the accurate, thought-provoking coverage? At least Jon Stewart is entertaining.

There is no excuse for the *Wall Street Journal's* rumored decision to cut their China bureau in coming months. The Chinese government beats the spirit out of foreign journalists until they stop producing meaningful articles. Any credible newspaper should recognize the need to bulk up their Chinese reporting staff rather than cut it down.

As newspapers broke into online media, they began introducing special "blogging" features, providing space for reader commentary for a more "interactive" newspaper viewing experience. Frankly, I do not care to interact with Maureen Dowd on any level other than at a distance. Seeing her face alongside her words is too much reality for me. American news consumers should demand smarter headlines, better coverage, intelligent writers, and interesting analysis over some spiffed-up attempt to compete with the blogging world. After all, as Arthur Miller once said, "a good newspaper...is a nation talking to itself."

ANDREA GLAESSNER '08.5 IS A LOCAL NEWS EDITOR. SHE IS FROM HOUSTON, TEX.

Letters to the editor

To the Editor:

It occurred to me that Mr. Clayton ("The Cranky Socialist," Oct. 23) was confused on who he would want to support when it comes to the election this year. As such a strong socialist, I assumed he would know that his vote should be for Brian Moore and Stewart Alexander: the nominees for the Socialist Party in the United States. Alas, my assumptions that he would be

a more informed socialist were in vain. Perhaps he became confused by all the ridiculous conservatives who label Barack Obama with the title of "socialist." These people can be very convincing with the labels they give him, many of them being the same misinformed people who believe Obama to be un-American or a Muslim (apparently it is bad, in the first place, to

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campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

A preface to lunch: James O'Brien Quidditch: The ultimate fantasy sport

Why are people so divided on the subject of breakfast for dinner (BFD)? What's not to like? BFD provides pancakes of various pancake flavors, which are somehow far superior to their regular pancake counterparts that we usually eat for breakfast. I'm not sure whether this is due to a finer batter used at BFD, or maybe the fact that I'm awake enough to enjoy the taste. Either way, the pancakes are wonderful, and they come with three choices of eggs — normal, Western, and some other kind that I can't remember. Three types of scrambled eggs! And a smoothie bar! What's not to like? We must stop this breakfast for dinner prejudice.

Breakfast is venturing out of its comfort zone, sacrificing its own complacency in order to give us a little variety in our lives, and all some of us can do is complain and go to another dining hall while our friend James would really like us to stay and eat with him because he likes BFD. Plus, breakfast for dinner definitely beats the idea of dinner for breakfast.

Or at least I'd imagine so. Nothing sounds worse than having lemon-crusted tilapia at 7 am, then washing it down with a cup of Banana Cumquat Explosion Surprise, or one of those other weird flavored coffees we have in the dining halls now.

I joke about it, but I'm suckered into drinking that one weird available flavor every time I eat. One of the, recent flavored coffees actually had the word "crunch" in it (it was called "Maple-Nut Crunch" or something like that). I forget how it tasted because the entire time I was drinking it, I was wondering when the crunch part was going to kick in. I'm a sucker. If coffee had intentionally disgusting flavors like Bertie Bott's Every Flavor Beans. Speaking of Bertie Bott's Every Flavor Beans, I'd like to awkwardly segue into the topic of Middlebury Quidditch, which is in no way related to breakfast for dinner. I can't write 700 words about breakfast for dinner. Deal with it.

Quidditch is a most postmodern of sport. It's just the sort of ironic, self-aware game that some-

one who does not typically follow sports is looking for. First, you have the players, who are composed of Harry Potter fans, their friends who didn't have much to do, and high school athletes who would like to feel good about themselves instead of getting their butts kicked in IM football (for those of you keeping score, I'm in this category). The players treat the game as if it is a sport, in the way sport is traditionally defined. At the same time, since they are wearing capes, there is a certain degree of understanding on the part of the players that the game is not life and death.

Meanwhile, the fans do not treat quidditch like a traditional sport either. Fans of traditional sports treat their teams as though their games are more serious than life itself. Quidditch fans, on the other hand, have no such delusions, as they can plainly see that they are watching kids with brooms between their legs.

Quidditch is not a sport that takes itself seriously, because even the people who play it aren't quite sure if it's a sport or not; and no matter the mindset of the players on the field, those there to watch are more entertained by the hilarity and relative absurdity of the game itself than getting caught up in who is "winning" and "losing."

This weekend's Quidditch World Cup was an undeniable success, due mostly to Commissioner Alex Banepe's persistence and dedication. This whole story is not about the game of quidditch itself, but of Middlebury college students' ability to take words on a page of a book and somehow transform them into hundreds of spectators watching 14 teams from all over the country — many of whom were picked toward the end of the line on the elementary school playground — run around on Battell Beach like wayward peacocks escaping from the zoo. There were more than 100,000 hits on the collegequidditch.com Web site. To watch peacocks!

Yes, I would say that there is something sort of magical about that.

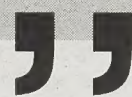
JAMES O'BRIEN '10 IS FROM
MEDFIELD, MASS.



heardoncampus

Ghosts and monsters are not really part of my belief system at all, but stories as themselves and the adrenaline rush they give us are real.

—Joe Citro, Author
Page 5



In my humble opinion: Dan Roberts

The importance of this moment in history

In one of my literature classes last year at Trinity College Dublin, we studied the poem "Easter 1916" by W.B. Yeats. Our professor said the poem is a reminder of how some time periods seem more "historical" than others. In many periods, people can already sense that they are living through a weighty and significant time.

He then asked, "Do any of you feel this way about your own time?" I nodded vigorously and said, "Oh, absolutely."

"What is it specifically that makes you feel that way?" I figured he was just coaxing out the obvious, so I said, "9/11." I guess I hadn't really thought about the fact that I was one of only two Americans in a classroom of 35 Irish

kids. And that this was an American event, most tragic for American citizens. I must have forgotten all this, because I was surprised when some kids looked skeptical. It took me a moment to realize that it may have been a really stupid comment.

Then I decided it wasn't stupid at all, maybe just a bit self-absorbed (obviously someone from America would feel that 9/11 was an event of epic worldwide proportions), and the teacher finally asked, "Does anyone agree?"

One girl said, "Well, it definitely was a major event and none of us will ever forget it ... but every generation has something like that. I don't think it's going to mark our era as an important one, and I'm also not sure it was as meaningful to Irish people as it was in the States." Lots of people nodded assent, but I was annoyed. No, I don't think that every generation has something "like that." That's a gross oversimplification. I think no single event in recent history created anything close to the horror of 9/11. It woke people up from their stupor, and reminded them that safety was an illusion.

The teacher told us that it often feels like events are significant when you are caught up in them, and you haven't yet had the time to zoom out. For example, he said he felt for a long time that 1989-91 was massively important, due to the fall of the Berlin Wall. And then he said, "But I'm sure to you all, that means nothing." One guy confirmed, "Right, nothing."

But now, seven months later (and seven years after the attack), I still believe that we are literally living

through history. Today's current events will be the content of high school textbooks fifty years from now.

It's not just 9/11. It's the huge boom in Internet "e-content" (some day soon, it seems, every single written text will be available as a download). It's the Bush presidency — one of intense public opposition (has there ever been a president besides Nixon who was so obviously hated by the people of his nation?).

And it's McCain selecting Sarah Palin as his VP. The choice was obviously deeply disturbing, for many

reasons, but it was her appearance on SNL recently that really showed just how unnerving her ascendancy to fame has been. Check it out on Hulu: Amy Poehler is

standing there rapping insults about Palin as Caribou Barbie herself sits there at the desk boppin' her head to the beat. Was she merely being a good sport, or was she actually on another planet, mentally — not even truly hearing the words? I'd go with the latter, but either way, it was downright spooky.

In addition, her almost mandatory (after Hillary, Obama, and McCain before her) appearance on SNL perfectly represented the merging of politics, pop culture and Internet. It's a merger that is only just beginning to crystallize now, in the year 2008.

If McCain does not win the presidency in a week, only time will tell whether Palin's fifteen minutes of fame will end and she'll fade away, or if she'll remain in the limelight as an unofficial leader of the hyper-conservative Republican sector. Regardless, I can't shake the feeling that just by being chosen as nominee — win or lose — her importance is ensured for generations to come. What a shame.

Unfortunately, all of my reasons for thinking this era is a major historical time are based on American events. Acknowledging this bias is helpful, but it doesn't change the fact that it's still there. The compulsion to care only about issues on our own soil is very powerful, and it's difficult to overcome.

So are we actually living through history right now, or on that day in class was I just being another American tourist A-hole?

DAN ROBERTS '09 IS FROM NEWTON, MASS.

Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy European football falling into foreign hands

When I started watching football in the late 90s, Chelsea was a decent team in a pretty good national league. The kings of Europe then were Real Madrid, taking charge after the decline of AC Milan. If you asked me and my friends what our favorite teams were, we would list three or four — one in Spain, one in Italy, one in England, and one in our home country.

A lot of eyebrows went up when Real went on a wild shopping spree, within a couple seasons acquiring Anelka, Ronaldo, Zidane and David Beckham to supplement their already star-studded line-up. Later, Chelsea's success was derided by critics as being solely the result of billionaire owner Roman Abramovich's profligacy. This has turned into the norm in top-flight football, with spending up 60 percent from last season in the English Premier League, and the critics aren't much happier.

UEFA President Michel Platini recently lashed out at the purchase of Manchester City by the Qatar-led Abu Dhabi United Group. "If you bring people from Qatar and there is no-one from Manchester at the club, where is Manchester?" he asked. "I think the Qataris should invest in Qatar." His problem is not just with misdirected investment: "You have to have identity; that is where football's popularity lies."

It may seem strange to invoke questions of identity when

club football has historically been very cosmopolitan. Yet in their selection, clubs have exhibited particular consistencies that allow fans to connect with them on a secondary level. Arsenal, for example, was famous for its Dutch-French hybrid; Manchester United fielded more British stars; and Barcelona recruited extensively in independentist Catalonia.

Today, these trends are more difficult to detect, since billionaire owners have shifted the focus towards buying international stars, sometimes to the detriment of both club and player. One notable example is the purchase of Andrei Shevchenko, who went from hero to pariah after his transfer from AC Milan to Chelsea. The English league did not suit his style, but having spent \$56 million on him, Roman Abramovich demanded extra playing time for the Ukrainian.

The deeper impact of this lavishness has been a declined interest in national leagues outside Europe. Abdu Maikaba, coach of FC Abuja, in Nigeria's first division, recently complained: "Whenever we play at the same time as an Arsenal game, nobody shows up." Of course, a gulf is to be expected between the two leagues, but not to the point of threatening the existence of a national football federation. And it doesn't stop at the professional level either, as European youth programs become affected by the clubs' voracity. Platini points out: "One player aged 11 is coming from Marseille to Chelsea.

For the mother you think that is good?"

There seems to be a lack of foresight in the system, because sooner or later supply lines will run thin. National leagues need to be competitive, sustained by well-funded youth programs and strong representation by domestic players. Roman Abramovich lost some \$10 billion in the financial crisis, and Chelsea has already announced that it will manage its own budget for the next two seasons. Manchester United jerseys are branded with the AIG logo, so there goes that. I doubt these teams will continue to compete on the same level if they are outspent by the Qataris, which seems inevitable.

There are several ironies to take away here. First, the teams that raised the bar for transfer spending are going to be hit the hardest when they tumble down the league table. Second, selling expensive players to cut budget deficits will yield a net loss, because sellers will have less leverage to back up their demands. Third, the Qataris, Egyptians and Americans are investing in their former colonizer's football league, while their domestic leagues are floundering in obscurity. And finally, a word of caution to the Brits: when was the last time the English national team did anything notable?

I'm so glad to have no personal investment in any of this.

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

CAMP0101: Election 2008

The Economy

Policy Expert: Professor Robert Prasch

The cost of economic group-think

As I write this, the major stock market indexes have taken another sharp downturn. Billions more can now be added to the trillions already lost in market capitalization and housing. The only certainty seems to be that before this is over we will have heard a number of accusations and counter-accusations concerning the specific laws or regulations that should, or should not, have been passed to prevent this debacle. In a democracy this is a necessary and important process — one that should be encouraged. Unlike the tepid responses to the collapse of Long-Term Capital Management, the East Asia Crisis, or the Dotcom bust, let us hope that a more responsible, coherent, and effective system of financial regulation will be put in place. The American record between the 1930s and the late 1970s, when we enjoyed rates of economic growth and low rates of bank failure that were the envy of the world, suggests that this can be achieved. So what, then, is the basis of our current failure?

Again we can, and should, look to specific laws or regulations for correction. But before we begin, we should pause to look at the “big picture.” If we do, I believe it can be demonstrated that flawed concepts are at the heart of our regulatory problem. These flawed concepts, in turn, supported flawed thinking, and flawed thinking supported flawed regulation. That massive expenditures on public relations and lobbying supported this chain of reasoning is, of course, a point too obvious to mention.

The error to which I refer did not occur at the highest levels of mathematical modeling. On the contrary, it was embedded in our most elementary conception of how markets work. This matters because so much of economic theory has come to be based on a very simple analogy, one that can be useful, but problematic if carelessly deployed. This elementary conception is the simple exchange story that almost all textbooks present as emblematic of “The Theory of the Market.” It is almost always some variant of the following: “If Jennifer has

cookies and Sammy has lemonade, Jennifer and Sammy could each be better off if they can freely exchange with each other.” Much follows from this apparently innocent example. Major public policies such as NAFTA, privatized schools and medical care, and the sweeping deregulation of the U.S. financial sector, can all be traced to this simple, actually simplistic, idea of how markets work. This false analogy is, I submit, at the core of the regulatory problem that America faces today.

Lost in this conception is that both cookies and lemonade are “Inspection Goods.” That is to say that almost all of us can readily understand virtually all of the relevant qualities of cookies or lemonade through our innate sense of sight, smell, or taste (We depend, rightly or wrongly, upon the Department of Agriculture to ensure that they are not pesticide-ridden, etc.). Consequently, the market price and quality of inspection goods can be readily, and even ideally, established in the course of the “higgling and bargaining” of the marketplace once so ably described by Adam Smith. The market works well for inspection goods because most consumers are capable of forming reasonably accurate assessments of the underlying qualities of the goods on offer.

By contrast financial assets, and this certainly includes mortgage-backed bonds and credit default swaps, cannot even be remotely thought of as inspection goods. Rather, they are “Experience Goods.” That is to say that we will all learn what these instruments are worth at some future date, when we come to find out if they will, or will not, pay out. Yes, we can draw upon some theories and limited historical experience to form estimates of this likelihood, but the fact remains that we do not *know*. That is to say that we are *uncertain*. When they are uncertain people tend to follow a “second best” strategy. This is to rely on what they hope, or presume, is the greater wisdom of the crowd. In this case they are acting on the belief that the market, with its aggregation of conventional assessments, is the best available estimator of the “true

value” of an unfamiliar asset or financial instrument. Consequently, people buy if others are buying, and sell if others are selling. The problem with a financial strategy based on “following the crowd” is that a period of market tranquility can induce a sense of comfort or assurance that reinforces a tendency to over-invest in risky assets. So long as these “bets” pay off, the underlying strategy appears to have been affirmed, and for that reason is repeated — with ever-larger and more leveraged bets. The consequence is that more and more financial institutions, including many who would never think of themselves as excessive risk-takers, take on what will turn out to have been increasingly dubious financial decisions. After all, they will reason, “everyone” is doing it and “everyone” is making a good deal of money. As the late economist Charles Kindleberger once remarked, “Everyone is a genius in a rising market.”

When the market eventually ceases to rise, and it invariably does, everyone discovers — at more or less the same time — that their portfolio of holdings is substantially riskier than they thought, and that they should have sold *yesterday*. What follows is a “flight to quality” — formerly to gold, and now to U.S. Treasury bonds — and an ensuing crash in the market for the troubled asset in question. The selling pressure soon spreads to related classes of assets and, if not contained, to assets in general. A profound disruption of the “real” economy follows. This is the process we are all witnessing in our morning newspapers. The regulatory solution, as the reader may have by now inferred, is to recognize that assets are not inspection goods, and for that reason need to be regulated if we are to avoid a repeat of this debacle. Finally, let us note invoking the name of “Adam Smith” is inappropriate at this juncture because he also supported the regulation of banks. We could do worse than follow his advice in this matter.

ROBERT PRASCH IS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS.

Party Favorites
Closing arguments

Will Bellaimey

“This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly,” Franklin D. Roosevelt told the country in his first inaugural address, “but let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself — nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance.”

The policies Barack Obama offers are nothing revolutionary. For years Democrats have proposed similar plans to slow climate change, to reform our broken health care system, and to restore a vibrant middle class based on equal opportunity for all.

What is revolutionary about Obama is his willingness to speak the truth, frankly and boldly. Throughout this campaign he has spoken to Americans with an eloquence and maturity that we imagined had been lost to the era of the five-second sound-byte. Democrats from Bill Clinton to John Kerry believed that liberals could only succeed with laundry lists of issues and poll-tested buzzwords. They ceded morality and guts to the Republicans, who gave us fear and blind machismo in return.

Words matter. The most important job of the next President will be to articulate a compelling vision of America at home and abroad. Barack Obama can’t deliver all the changes we need by himself. That will take a decades-long movement and a broad political coalition. But he can speak the truth like no one else and inspire hope, yes hope, that oft mocked antidote to the fear that has paralyzed us for far too long. We cannot retreat.

WILL BELLAIMEY '10 IS FROM MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. HE IS CO-PRESIDENT OF THE MIDDLEBURY DEMOCRATS.

Jessie Singleton

After a tireless primary contest, months of fierce campaigning, those great SNL moments (who can forget them?), and Joe T. Plumber’s 15 minutes of fame, the time has come. Today, there are only 270 electoral votes, 50 states, five days, and two parties standing between right now and our quadrennial chance to redress the mistakes of the past.

But Election Day in America is different this time around, and it’s not just because of the dismal economy, endless war, soaring national debt, skyrocketing health care-costs, and the list goes on...

11-04-08 is unique because of Barack Obama. Since his announcement in Springfield nearly seventeen months ago, Barack Obama’s campaign has become more than just a campaign.

He’s created a movement, empowering every generation, race, religion, and class — not as red-states and blue-states — but as the United States, to work together for something we’d almost forgotten: that in the unlikely story that is America, there’s never been anything false about hope.

JESSIE SINGLETON '08.5 IS FROM KINGSFORD, TENN. SHE IS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE ROOSEVELT INSTITUTION.

Stefan Claypool

On Nov. 4, we will choose between two men of profoundly different political philosophies and personal histories for the most powerful office in the world.

On the right we have a man who has dedicated his entire adult life to the service of his country; a man who has consistently asserted his independence from mob mentality and petty politics; a man who will not compromise himself for popularity’s sake; a man of integrity, of honor, and of impeccable character. That man is John McCain.

And on the left we have a man about whom we know shockingly little; an unaccomplished radical riding a wave of self-righteous egomania; a man who embraced the corruption of the Chicago political machine yet claims to be an agent of reform; a blank slate upon whom followers have projected their own fantasies. That man is Barack Obama.

We need a man of strength and integrity in the White House, not an untested novice who promises vague, directionless change for its own sake. We need a president who can get things done and solve the problems of our age. We need John McCain.

STEFAN CLAYPOOL '09 IS FROM MEQUON, WISC. HE IS A FORMER CO-PRESIDENT OF THE MIDDLEBURY REPUBLICANS.

Heather Pangle

While Obama’s greatest accomplishments are two books about himself, John McCain has established a long record of achievements in the life he has spent dedicated to our country. In his senatorial career, McCain has taken on his own party (on Iraq, the environment, spending, immigration, torture, energy...), and fought against special interests (ethanol subsidies, the arms industry, the tobacco industry, agricultural subsidies, earmarks, etc.). He has proved himself adept at hashing out compromises and crafting legislation.

His administration may well be one of the most bipartisan in history, as he, unlike Obama, has proven a true commitment to bipartisanship.

He does not claim to be our political savior, he calls us to serve causes greater than our self-interest, instead of empty proclaiming, “We are the ones we’ve been waiting for.”

McCain’s sufferings for our country in war have not led him to think unrealistically that we can or should attempt to eliminate war. He appreciates the use as well as the cost of force, and will know if, when, and how to use it in the complex international problems facing us in Iraq, Afghanistan, Russia, Iran, Pakistan, and the struggle between Islamic extremism and liberal democracy.

He has the experience, courage, honor, and judgment to lead our country through the struggles ahead. I will be voting for John McCain.

HEATHER PANGLE '10 IS FROM AUSTIN, TEX. SHE IS A FORMER CO-PRESIDENT OF THE MIDDLEBURY REPUBLICANS.

CAMP0101: Election 2008		
SYLLABUS	COUNTDOWN	THE HORSE RACE
DATE & TOPIC	DAYS UNTIL THE ELECTION	3 DAY TRACKING POLL AVG FROM REAL CLEAR POLITICS (OCT. 28)
September 11 The GOP Ticket	5	50% OBAMA
September 18 The Environment		
September 25 Education		
October 2 Supreme Court		
October 9 Foreign Relations		
October 23 The Campaigns		43% McCAIN
October 30 The Economy		
November 4 Election Day		

Letters to the editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

practice Islam).

Of course there is flack from both sides: I hold liberals who cast McCain as a "fascist" in the same esteem as the conservatives who call Obama a "socialist." He mentioned Proposition 8 which would take away the right to marry from same-sex couples in California. Knowing the history of the ballot, it is only superficially a conservative measure because of its wording. Actually, conservatives from California were angry about the wording of the measure because they were afraid the notion of "removing a right" from a group of people would appeal to the voter's conscience and cause it to fail. There was quite a GOP movement to change the wording to the more successful "define marriage as a union between one man and one woman." Apparently, it was their goal to not include the conscience in voting on this ballot, and in my opinion, you might have to be void of one in order to vote "yes" on it. Denying same-sex couples the right to marry is a sore that plagues a country that calls itself the "free" world. To backtrack the progress that California is fostering would be inhumane. Therefore, please support love and support "no" on Proposition 8. And if you're truly a socialist... Brian Moore is your man, not Barack Obama.

Sincerely,
Ryan Taurainen '08
Wailua, HI.

To the Editor:

Last weekend, the Middlebury varsity men and women's crew team competed at one of the world's most renowned regattas in the world, the Head of the Charles in Boston. Competing against clubs from all over the nation, both squads defeated rivals such as Tufts University. Imagine my surprise to open up *The Campus* and see nothing, not even a blurb, about our achievements. It is disappointing and insulting to see the lack of recognition that these successful Middlebury teams receive.

Sincerely,
Elise Cohen '11

OP-ED: Gregg Humphrey Concerns about Teach for America

It has happened again! For the second year in a row one of our finest Middlebury College students, who is also a Teacher Education minor, has been rejected at the very beginning of the Teach For America (TFA) application process. This year, however, there was an additional twist to the turn of events. I was emailed the opportunity to write a recommendation for one of my Education minors and then, days later, "uninvited" to submit what I had taken the time to write. As a result, TFA will never be able to learn how well this student meets the qualifications they profess to seek in their successful candidates. The TFA website proclaims, "We look for exceptional individuals who have a track record of achievement in school, work, and/or extracurricular activities." In my files, I have three exceptional evaluations from local teachers that discuss how this student explicitly demonstrated high-level ability to help students learn at three different age ranges. The TFA website mentions that, "...we seek evidence that applicants operate with professionalism and integrity, and meet basic writing standards." If I had been able to submit my recommendation they would have read specific examples of how these attributes applied to my student. Searching deeper into the TFA site I found that, "...we do not require recommendations at the application stage, though we do collect and consider two Online Recommendation Forms if you are invited to a phone interview." So now I get it. Several of our top Middlebury students had been rejected prior to their professor's being allowed to submit recommendations.

There is an "urban myth" about TFA that more or less cautions students not to become involved with teacher education prior to ap-

plying to TFA — that somehow this will hurt their chances of acceptance. I have always brushed this aside as impossible. But now I am not so sure. How is it possible that such fine potential teachers could have been denied the chance to be given a recommendation without a shred of this myth being true? How could TFA immediately reject someone without taking the time to learn that they possess the very skills the organization claims to desire in their candidates?

Two years ago TFA ran a recruitment advertisement in the *Campus* that included the highlighted phrase, "No Education Courses Needed." I protested to the national offices of TFA, to its Middlebury representative, and to our Career Service Organization. After all, wouldn't you want someone to be more, rather than less, prepared? Thankfully, I was assured future TFA ads would not contain this phrase. Now TFA is a larger force on campus, with paid Middlebury undergraduates as campus representatives, and TFA is conducting interviews during the week that require students to miss classes rather than holding such interviews on a Saturday. To be clear, all of us in education share a commitment to bringing the best teachers we can to our nation's schools. We are, in that sense, on the same team. Unfortunately, the TFA recruitment process, in its apparent need to make quick decisions, is missing some of the best and most prepared young teachers to add to their corps. I am appalled that TFA would not want a professor's recommendation on behalf of an outstanding candidate.

GREGG HUMPHREY IS THE DIRECTOR OF
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

Out on a Lim: Leslie Lim Commercialization has tricked out Halloween

With Halloween just around the corner, I started to think about the many days of celebration that warrant a note on our calendars. Now it is clear that holidays, or "days of festivity or recreation when no work is done" in their form today, have come a long way from their origins. Halloween for instance, comes from All Hallows Eve, which preceded All Hallows Day or All Saints Day. All Hallows Eve was supposed to be a day where the boundary between the living and the dead blurred and spirits roamed free, so people also dressed up like evil spirits to mimic or placate them. It has now evolved into a holiday involving costumes, a very large consumption of candy and loosely connected (to its origins) events designed to elicit fear and thrills. Much of the purpose of the night has become playful and entertaining in spirit (no pun intended).

Another holiday that has strayed from its roots is Christmas. Though still strongly associated with the birth of Christ and an important day for Christianity, again much of the focus has shifted towards a well-decorated tree, gifts and Santa. There are elements such as being with one's family, which is a constant, but the fact that many countries that are secular or non-Christian have adopted Christmas proves that Christmas has evolved into a largely commercial phenomenon beyond its religious origins.

Both Halloween and Christmas today reflect a change in world thought towards the secular and commercial at least in official channels that designate it a holiday. I don't particularly have a problem with such a trend. There are certainly those who celebrate holidays in ways that are much closer to its original purpose, but having those holidays expand and evolve allow them to be celebrated by a larger audience. If

it makes people happy and doesn't hurt or offend others, why not?

In addition to the evolution of the holidays themselves, I think an even more interesting aspect is our evolution regarding the roles we play in the holiday. As a child I remember the various costumes from Minnie Mouse to Jasmine that I wore and went around to houses trick-or-treating in. And at college, the main staple of any holiday but particularly Halloween, seems to be a huge party. Halloween costume parties (Johnson pit anyone?) make us slightly reckless, perhaps due to an overprotective feeling given to us by our masks. As we get older, we inevitably transition from candy-getters to candy-givers as we will be the ones passing out the candy corn and ooh-ing and aah-ing over costumes.

Our roles in Christmas change as well. We have come a long way from laying out cookies for Santa the night before and getting up eagerly to rush to the tree and open presents. We may now act as though we believe in Santa Claus for the sake of a younger sibling, but largely acknowledge him as a lovely but fake entity lovingly preserved by our parents. One day some of us will be wearing a fake beard and a pillow on our stomach to belt out the "ho ho hos" and bring the much awaited presents for the children that believe.

But what I wanted to highlight throughout this all is that evolution of holidays, and of our roles, is natural. Things change, but as long as the changes don't harm anybody, they are perfectly acceptable. The holiday in its original and current form can be appreciated, and while we enjoyed the trick or treating chapter of our lives, it is important to remember we have a Santa costume to look forward to.

LESLIE LIM '10 IS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE.

OP-ED: Julia Szabo and Sarah Tucker Fliers are the wrong medium for political discourse

As two students who fully respect and appreciate the first amendment, fliers hung up this week by "Jack & Jill" have tested our patience. You've likely seen posters reading "Voting Kills" and "Nothing's Going to Change My World" accompanied by photos of the presidential candidates. Because these posters are cryptic and anonymous we don't know what their creators are trying to say. Are they against the two-party system, the government, or the candidates themselves? Or is this an attempt at irony? At best these posters are disturbing and confusing.

While we credit the authors with reaching literally every lamp-post on campus, their message is unproductive. The flier from earlier this semester stating "Voting Kills" with pictures of the assassinated John and Bobby Kennedy is particularly insensitive given people's real concerns for the safety of our nation's first prominent African-American presidential candidate.

Everyone has a right to voice his or her opinion, but we feel that this particular opinion at this particular time is wholly counterproductive.

Civic engagement or lack thereof is a personal choice, but encouraging apathy in others is something very different. In a system

in which the youth aren't listened to, encouraging students not to vote is especially harmful. Perhaps a two-party system isn't ideal, but it is the reality we are faced with. Whether we like it or not change comes through government and the way to have your voice heard is to vote. Your one vote will not decide the election (unless perhaps you're from Florida) but all of our votes together will. As of now, the system doesn't respond to young people because we don't show up at the polls. In contrast, the elderly voting block is disproportionately represented in political campaigns precisely because your grandparents vote. Imagine what we could demand if we turned out on Election Day. Candidates would be forced to address issues that matter to us like college affordability, equitable pay, social justice, and the environment — we could decide.

Neither candidate is perfect, neither platform is complete, and our system may be flawed. But change comes from within, and your voice is your vote. Youth apathy hasn't worked for us in the past, its time to try something new. Go vote ... and enough with the posters.

JULIA SZABO '09 IS FROM LAWRENCE, KAN.
SARAH TUCKER '09 IS FROM NEWTON, MASS.

NOVEMBER at Town Hall Theater

10/30- 11/2

Smokey Joe's Cafe

The hit Broadway musical, directed by Doug Anderson

Time: 10/30, 31, 11/1 8pm 11/1, 2 2pm

Price: \$15

8

Luminescent Orchestr

High-energy gypsy-klezmer-rock

Time: 8pm Price: \$15

13-16

Our Town

Middlebury Community Players

Time: 11/13-15 8pm 11/15-16 2pm

Price: \$15/\$12

20-22

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

Middlebury College Musical Players

Time: 8pm Price: \$8/\$6/\$5 Tickets from 10/31: 443-6433 or www.middlebury.edu/arts/tickets

29

Leon Redbone

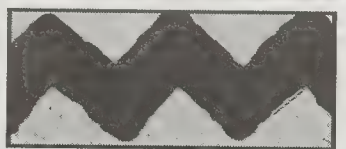
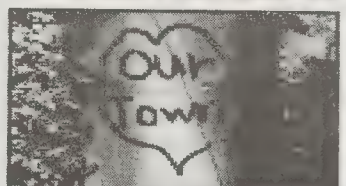
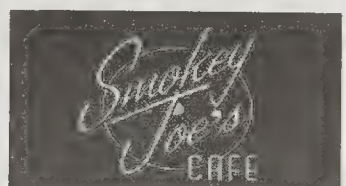
After Dark Music Series

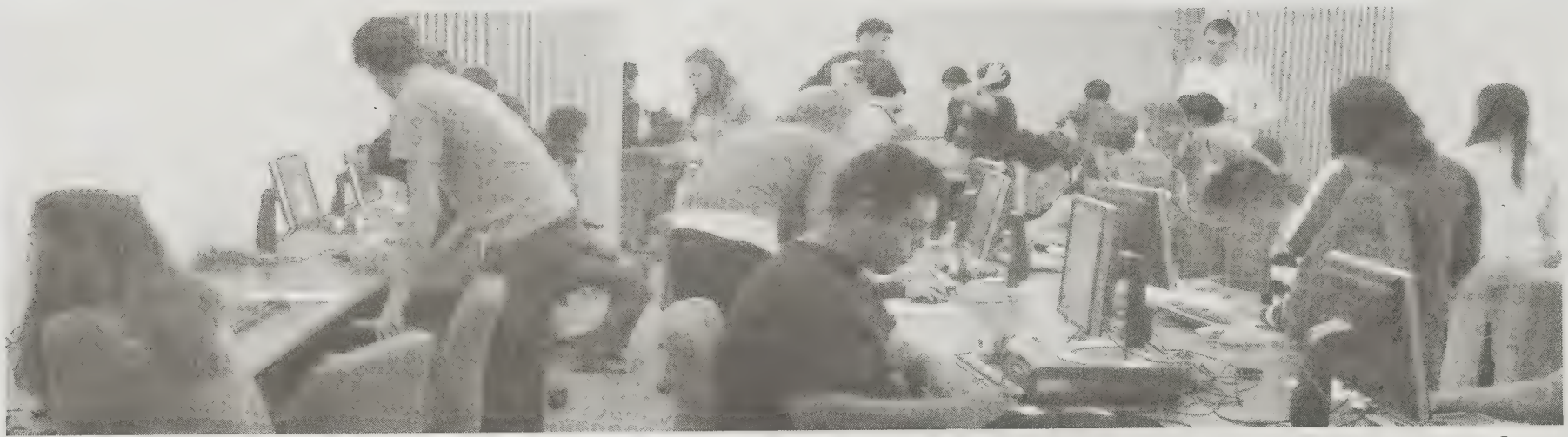
Time: 7pm Price: \$30 Advance/\$35 door

Tickets: 388-0216 or www.afterdarkmusicseries.com



Town Hall Theater
Merchants Row, Middlebury VT
Tickets: 382-9222 www.townhalltheater.org





Courtesy

MiddVote organizers are gaining momentum as election day approaches. Volunteers research voting provisions, state by state, in an effort to increase student participation.

MiddVote translates apathy into action

A note on the vote

With the election less than a week away, it's time to start thinking about how your vote will influence the next four years.

On health: 46 million Americans are uninsured. Are you covered by your parents' plan? Will you still be after graduation? What kind of coverage do you want to receive at your first job?

On employment: Minimum wage reform, workplace standards laws, maternity/paternity leave, and equal pay for equal work are all up for debate.

On the environment: How about wildlife protection, pollution and emission standards, and global warming?

On education: What kind of school did you go to? Was it well-funded? Is it still well-funded? Do you believe in vouchers or charter schools or magnet schools? What do you think about teacher tenure and teacher salaries?

On the economy: Policy in the next four years will drastically shape our economy. Want to prevent another crisis or fix the one we're in?

On the war: We've been in Iraq for over five years now. What do you think should be done? Should we stay there? If so, for how long? Should we leave? If so, when and under what circumstances?

On foreign policy: How should we deal with international threats? What is our role on the international stage?

There are two very different candidates with two very different plans. No matter who you vote for, your vote, and the votes of others like you, will make a difference. If you voted absentee already, that's great. If you're waiting to send your ballot in, go ahead. If you're registered in Vermont, have fun getting that great "I Voted" sticker from town hall.

The future belongs to those who show up. Go vote.

By Tess Russell
FEATURES EDITOR

Turning 18 signifies several major legal developments in the life of a young American: we can buy pornography and cigarettes, we can be conscripted, we can be tried as adults in criminal proceedings and we can participate in elections. Whether you approached the promise of the voting booth with enthusiasm or apathy, you probably expected that, once you reached the appropriate age, doing your civic duty would be as easy as, well, flicking a switch.

Now, confronted with stacks of paperwork and indecipherable instructions, youth voters across the country are finding registration to be a process that is taxing at best and often virtually impossible.

Sarah Tucker '09.5, who is one of five student heads of MiddVote — a non-partisan initiative supported through independent funding from the Alliance of Civil Engagement (ACE) — along with Trevor Lee '09.5, Julia Szabo '09.5 and Kei Katsura '10, likened the convoluted procedures of some states to "rocket science."

"I think those structural obstacles are the main reason that the youth vote hasn't turned out in past elections," said Tucker. "Voting can be really intimidating and hard to navigate. We don't want to make

anyone feel like registering is something they 'should' know how to do — we want them to feel empowered."

MiddVote was started a few years ago by Conor Stinson '06.5 and May Bove '06.5. The organization became active again during last fall's primary elections, and has helped co-sponsor debate events with the Roosevelt Institution, the College Democrats and the College Republicans in recent weeks. Still, Lee maintained that MiddVote's primary mission is not to inform people but simply to help them get their voices heard.

"Our goal is very simple," said Lee. "We want to make it easier for people to vote and to make the process as horizontal as possible, because some colleges have Web sites that are as confusing and bureaucratic as the [state election board sites]."

Katsura echoed Lee's sentiment that there is "so much fine print on these ballots that a lot of people don't read the directions right and their votes aren't counted."

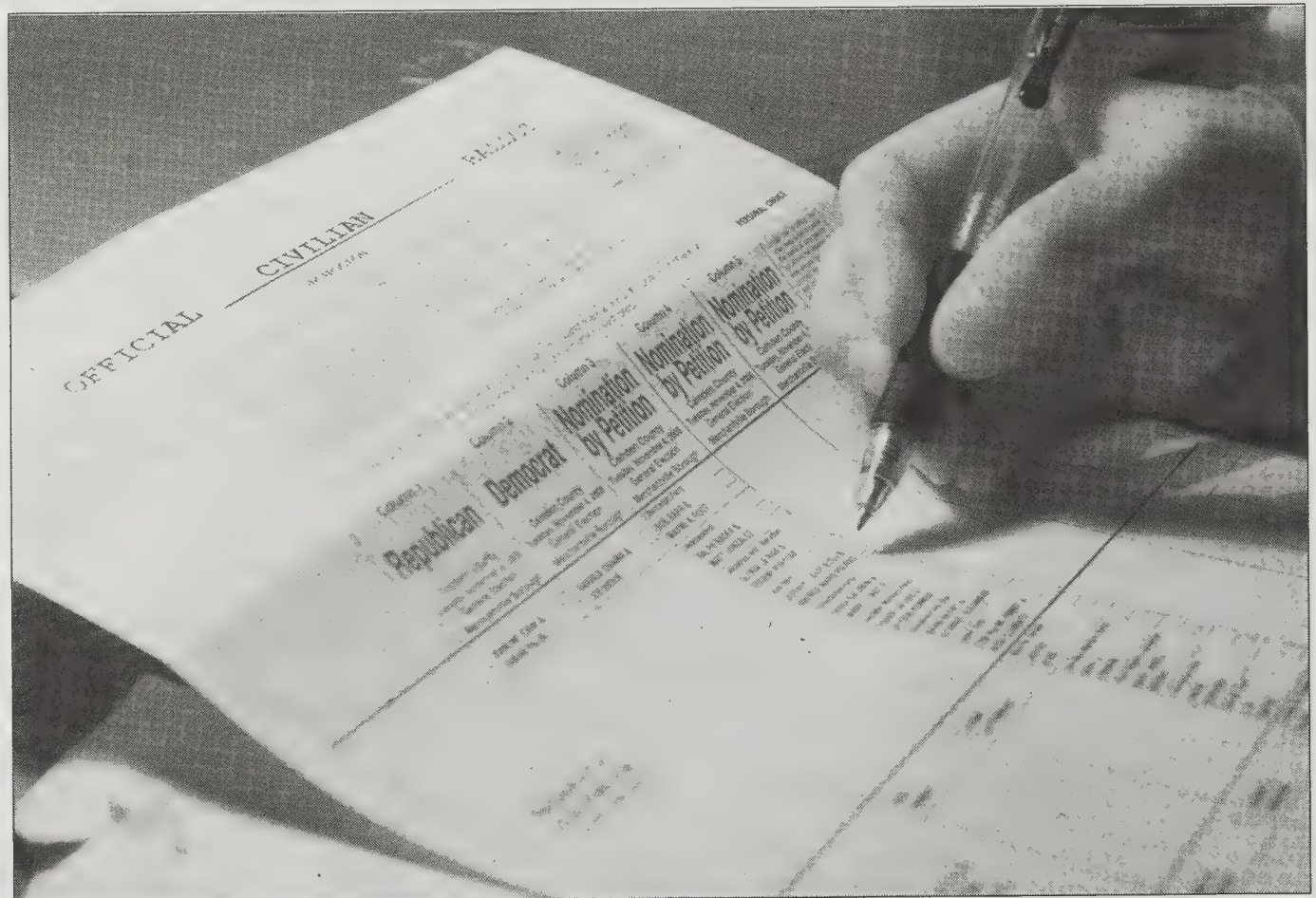
The MiddVote organizers are not actively seeking official club status and like to think of themselves as a "resource" more than anything else — they encourage students active in party politics to get involved in helping with registration drives on the condition that they "literally take their but-

tons off at the door," in Tucker's words. All that is required of volunteers is a willingness to read directions deliberately, compile materials and dispense stamps and ballots.

Turnout has been impressive this year, reflecting a larger national trend, and seems to bode well for the upcoming election.

"The challenge," explained Szabo, "is getting young people to see the urgency of how voting affects them. Voting is the only way to be a part of government and the only way to affect change, and when young people don't vote, [elected officers] don't feel any need to aim their policies toward us."

Curious about how your state stacks up to the rest? Well, if you are from New York or New Jersey, consider yourself lucky — registration for you is relatively easy. As for Vermont, our cozy Green Mountain state remains the only one of 50 where citizens must take a "voter's oath." In North Dakota, voters can actually show up unregistered as long as other residents are willing to vouch for them. Compare that to Michigan, where you cannot vote absentee in your first election if you have registered by mail, or to quirky Arizona, where every prospective voter must write a personalized letter to their local election board.



Scott Wehrwein

To Die For

See what happened at the Seven Deadly Sins party, page 13.



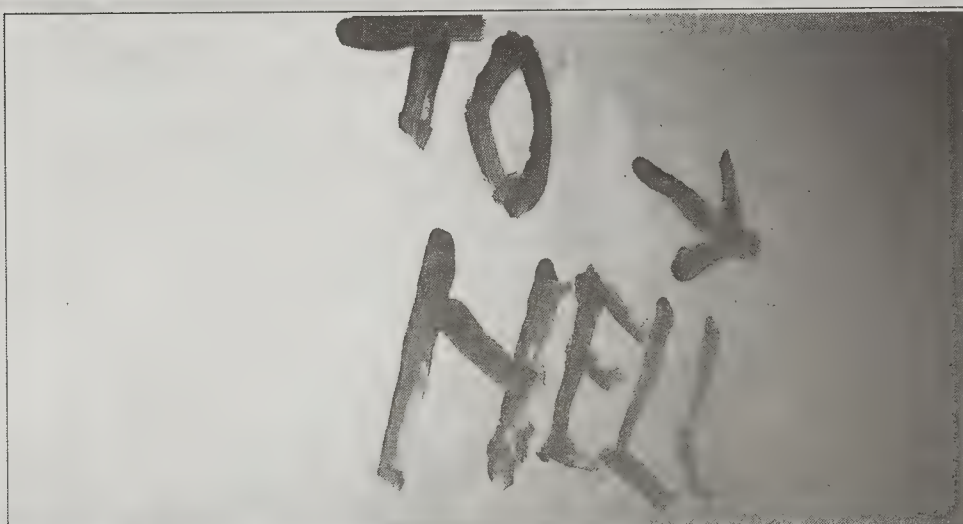
Strum Speaks

Chuck Strum addresses the faculty on involvement with the media, page 14.



Simply Batty

Jesse Davidson explores the science behind vampires, page 13.



Jane Yoon

MiddSexGuy



by A.J. Meyer

I'll pick up this week where I left off in my discussion of the importance of communication in sex and relationships. I've covered seduction as well as that short pre-sex stage before anything really good happens. It's time — you're ready, he or she is ready and sex happens. Now what the hell should you say or do? Should you be really quiet and just let your bodies do the talkin' or should you be gabbing about the weather? Obviously, everyone has a different approach to communication in the bedroom, but the most important thing is the ability to adapt to any possible partner. There are screamers, yellers, whisperers, silents, odd-talkers, dirty-talkers, crazy-talkers, awkwarders, and many, many more varieties of lovers.

I always recommend the practical approach of getting to know your lovers before getting it on and letting them know, little by little about what you like to do or how you like to express yourself in bed. But, for a good number of people out there, more

random sex does happen. How should one respond to a weird, "you like that?" or an even more awkward, "Spank me like a schoolgirl!"? Sometimes, through the influence of alcohol or just from the heat of the moment, people can get a little bit crazy. I say, just go with it — you only live once and if it makes someone happy, why not? Sex is fun, but it can also be funny. Like all things in life, you can't take yourself too seriously or cease to see the humor in life. You should probably save the laughter for after the act, unless it's mutual.

But, what about the opposite end of the spectrum? The less animated, more reserved side. You're working your tail off and get nothing — no positive response, no encouragement, just plain nothing. In some cases, sex does transcend all communication. But, I'm talking about the less enjoyable one-way sex that just doesn't seem worth it. Personally, I would just say avoid it at all costs. I don't even want to talk about it. I can't really understand it and would imagine that you can have more fun alone.

Ok, you are finished. Well, at least someone is finished and for the sake of this article, you're lying in bed. In actuality, you could be anywhere (the shower, the woods, Battell Beach, a car seat). You're in bed. What do you talk about now? The sex? I would say yes, but I'd be careful not to get too serious or quantitative. If a girl or guy whips out a checklist and starts evaluating your performance I'd get out of there. You two have just gone through an intense struggle. You're naked and completely vulnerable. Be good to each other. Tell him or her that you had an awesome time, even if it wasn't that

awesome. You don't have to over-exaggerate and lie. But, sex teaches you things and is just a plain beautiful part of life. Life is tough, and sex shouldn't have to be. It should be a celebration. Also, if he or she was amazing, let them know. Be appreciative of hard work on both ends of the spectrum. Respect and appreciate your partner.

Right after sex, some of the most honest conversation can occur between two people. Sex clears the mind and makes you just feel good. Talk to each other. If you don't know your lover, ask them questions. Right after sex, you can probably learn the most about people. They are honest and feel simple and young. Naked together, you two are more than two random individuals, you're part of this great chain of pain and pleasure in life that keeps going round and round. I don't know what I'm talking about, but there's just something about those minutes after sex when a couple lies together panting or in each other's arms that transcends time and all the B.S. that we deal with. It's genuine, or at least I hope it is.

Also, don't shun your lovers even if something turned out to be a one-time thing. You see them and avoid eye contact or pretend that they don't exist. You both know what you did; you both know what you look like naked. Grow up, say Hi! How are things going? You don't have to be insanely cold or ask them how their sex life is going. Be civil people whether it wound up being a good decision or a bad decision. Roll with the punches.

I hope you guys enjoyed my perspective into communication in sex. Can't wait for next week.

7

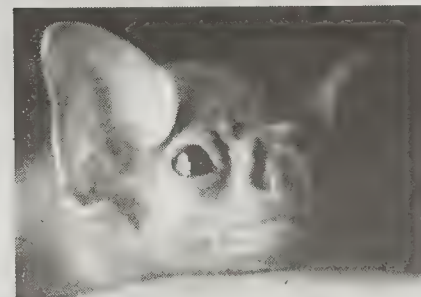
Deadly

sins

KDR THEME PARTY "KILLS"

Lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy and pride — what's your favorite sin? Last weekend, KDR upped the ante on its annual "Heaven and Hell" themed party by hiring a limo and renting out multiple black lights and fog machines. In total, over 300 students attended.

Dr. Jesse, B.A.



by Jesse Davidson

A 'nose leaf' is a term that just entered my vocabulary last week reading *The New York Times* science section. I figured it was a euphemism for the remnants of sloppy nose-blowing, or for the autumn golds and reds that you find in your tissue when you have a bad cold.

A 'nose leaf' has nothing to do with snot or getting sick, though, and is actually a body part: it is the gnarly horn that rests at the end of bats' noses and gives them their ominous appearance. In the case of vampire bats, it allows them to direct their sonar signal towards any entrée that has a velvety pulse and a meaty, cutaneous topping.

Because they are blind, these flying creatures have to choose their prey completely through the sound of the hosts' breathing, their body heat, and their smell.

Blindness, however, is not the only adversity in the life of the vampire bat. They have to consistently escape the notice of their much larger hosts while they feed. Each meal could be their end, and they never get to enjoy their dinner. They also have to deal with playground put-downs like "bloodsucker," "devil-bird," and "filthy flying weasel."

To top it off, vampire bats have no fun in the sun. No kickball, no frisbee, no Quidditch. Bats colonize dark dwellings during the day, and do not emerge until nightfall. You would have to overcome all this adversity to be the success story that is the vampire bat, and in this way they are more like Rudys than Draculas. But the myth of vampires, where these bats derive their name and reputation, is actually rooted in medicine.

A disease known as *porphyria cutanea tarda* is an extremely rare blood disorder that results in the blistering of skin when it is exposed to sunlight. Before the advent of modern medicine, it is speculated that people with this disorder were associated with vampires, zombies and werewolves. In this disorder, the body can't put the heme in hemoglobin, but instead the components of the unfinished heme are deposited on the surface of the skin, where they readily react with sunlight. With sun exposure, the skin can turn purple and erode with ulcers; sufferers usually have to wear protective clothing or have to stay indoors. Their gum line can also shrink, making their teeth resemble fangs.

If would make some sense that the victims of this disease might be able to replace the "heme" by taking down a smoothie of red blood cells, but the analogy to vampires stops there. The disease is not contagious either, and you do not get any of the perks of being a vampire, like living forever.

And holy water tastes just the same.

This Halloween, do not forget that the old costumes like vampires or werewolves are still fair game. They have a rich history in both media and medicine, and should not be completely tossed aside just because your little brother is being one. For the past four years I've been Rod Stewart, Joe Dirt, or some other mulleted icon, and my ideas are starting to run thin, so I might have to revert back to the these oldies. I'll probably just end up wearing a sheet with two eyeholes.



the ethicist

by Amanda Greene

I have a feeling that there are going to be a lot of Sarah Palin's running around campus this Halloween. I'm also anticipating a few run-ins with different takes on Joe the Plumber and a couple abstract interpretations of the dismal economic state. I can't wait to see the costumes that Middlebury students conjure up, and the themed ensembles that groups tackle. Halloween is an amazing time for creative expression but it is also a holiday that prompts students to channel their inner werewolf and to act in ways that are sanctioned by the cover of night and by costumes.

Case and point: Dressing like a witch does not permit you to act like one. That risqué nurse costume does not grant you unquestioned access to your peer's bodies. Donning a Barack Obama mask does not make you a national celebrity. Halloween attire is a costume and its wear does not permit the wearer to abandon all codes of social propriety. Waking up the following morning next to a knight-in-shining armor who now looks like a disheveled boy in beer-drenched leggings is far from enticing.

My advice to costume wearers: be something sensible. Don't expect your costume to function as a disguise or act as "fabric courage" of sorts. A mask can hide your face, but it can't hide your personality. When the clock strikes midnight, Middlebury students don't turn into pumpkins, but we are reminded of the morning that awaits us and of the damage we will have to undo if Halloween inspires to act uncharacteristically.

And now for this week's question:

Q: I am enrolled in a senior ENAM seminar. We have a round-table style discussion most classes and sit in such a way that every person can see everyone else. In a recent class one student sat with her boots on the table and slumped down in her chair. It looked like she was reading in her room rather than attending a class. When her turn to speak came, she remained with her boots on the table and failed to sit up straight. I found this to be incredibly disrespectful of her not only to the class but also especially to the professor! The professor did not comment on her behavior but avoided looking at her while she spoke and as he responded to her. Aren't we old enough to understand the basic tenets of respect for our professors, and am I right to be as outraged as I am by her disrespect?

—Annoyed-in-Axinn

A: Your frustration with your classmate is justified and is an appropriate reaction to her behavior. Middlebury College, as an institution of higher learning, is a school that individuals choose to attend. Your classmate is enrolled in Middlebury because she values her education, or understands the need for a bachelor's degree, and her actions disrespect the community that she is a part of. Her disregard for the professor, the material being taught and for her classmates creates an uncomfortable learning environment because her peers do not know how to respond to such blatantly disrespectful behavior. If you feel comfortable, I encourage you to offhandedly mention something to your classmate about her etiquette, or to emphasize your own behavior in a way that communicates your dissatisfaction.

Want to consult the ethicist? Send submissions to amgreene@middlebury.edu

Strum encourages faculty presence in media

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

formulate a smart newspaper article is a painless and inexpensive way to help prove that the liberal arts are more than just relevant, it helps prove that they are invaluable."

Public Affairs Office Director Sarah Ray continued this theme in her remarks.

"Every time one of us [Middlebury faculty and staff] speaks to the media, we're representing Middlebury College," she told attendees. She added later that it is a real success "when [reporters] call [faculty and staff], from any paper. There are how many college and universities in the United States and how many experts that they could have picked, and we're [Public Affairs] really trying to get them to pick the Middlebury faculty and staff."

Ray later noted that while not quantifiable, she has "definitely seen a general increase in the number of faculty and staff being courted [by newspapers]," in the 11 years she has been at Middlebury.

It's really important to take up the gauntlet and make the case for liberal arts and liberal education.

—Don Wyatt

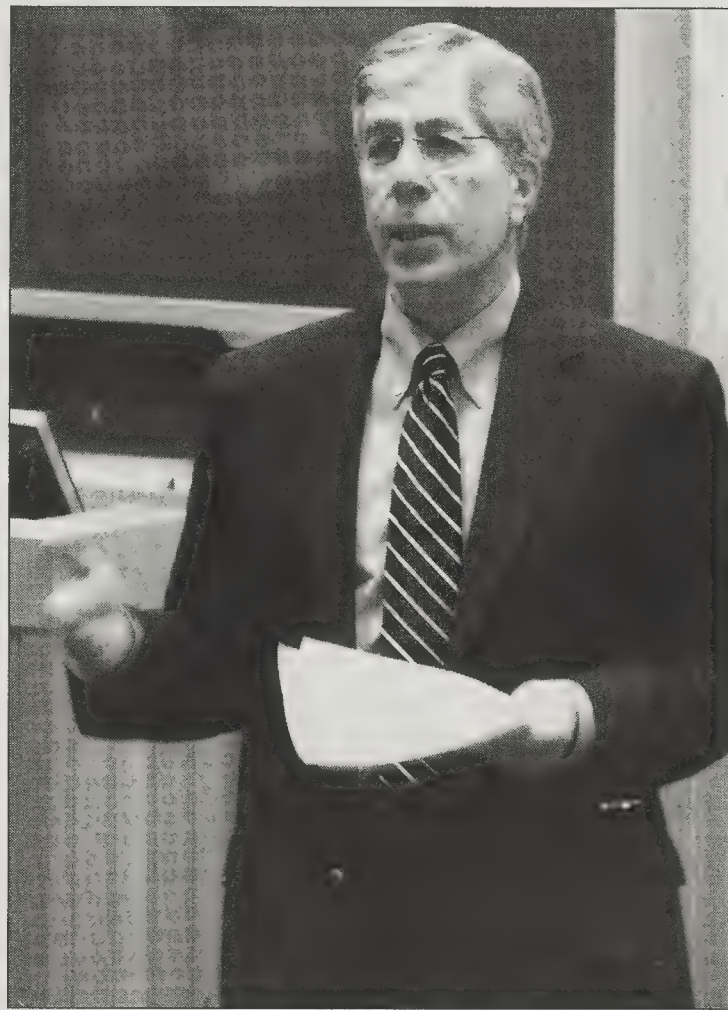
Speaking as part of a panel discussion following the talk, Associate Professor of Psychology Barbara Hofer commented that despite her general reluctance to speak to the media, she continues to contribute to articles because "it is good for Middlebury." She also cited a "hidden agenda" of trying to include students in interviews showcase their role in faculty research. As a small liberal arts college, Middlebury's students have a unique opportunity to participate in faculty research, something that reflects well on the institute and quality of education.

Also speaking as part of the panel, Professor of History Don Wyatt addressed the importance of helping the public understand issues normally restricted to the academic sphere through the news media.

"We're better positioned in this age when we are witnessing the demise of the so-called public intellectual, to fill that role than any other area of academe," Wyatt said, referencing the importance of the

liberal arts professor. "It's really important to take up the gauntlet and make the case for the liberal arts and liberal education and one of the best ways to do it is to put it before the public in a way that it can be consumed."

Although the Public Affairs Office doesn't have plans at this time to conduct a similar workshop for students, given the interest that professors have in including students in interviews, the idea will be considered in the future.

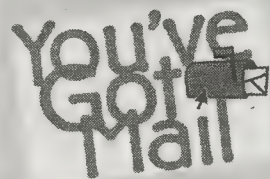


Ali Urban

Strum advises faculty on representing the College in a good light.

e-mail roundup

— 10.30.08 —



By Tess Russell
FEATURES EDITOR

Subject: October is Fire Safety Month!

Earlier this month, students were informed of impending fire safety checks in their respective dormitories, a notice that was "not intended to serve as a discrete reminder" to hide candles, incense, halogen lamps, portable heaters, or Christmas tree lights — though, in case you are wondering, all of those things are strictly forbidden. Fire safety can also "nail" you for putting screws in your wall, hanging tapestries from your sprinklers and smoking. But look on the bright side: with the inspectors poking around at top volume for a week's worth of mornings, you can give T.I. (via your cell phone alarm) a much needed vacation.

Subject: ***FLU SHOT CLINICS***

The Health Center employed Clip Art to great effect last week — after all, nothing puts the fear of God into college students like an expired-looking smiley face cartoon staring at the business end of a thermometer. Shots will cost \$10, payable by cash, check, charge or debit, and will be administered in the Health Center next week on Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 1-4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 1-4 p.m., or by special appointment. Be sure to arrive early, as the clinics filled quickly last year. Getting a voluntary shot may seem neurotic, but you will have the last laugh come finals week, when the Midd Express supplies of cough drops and Kleenex have dwindled and your housemates all resemble redder, phlegmier versions of the aforementioned scary smiley.

Subject: Middlebury College Facilities Services Newsletter

This handy October briefing included information about the removal of a sugar maple near Painter Hall, project updates on everything from Bread Loaf to the Biomass facility, a centerfold featuring the sexy new solar panels recently installed on the roof of 107 Shannon Street and, thrill of all thrills, an informative expose on "Mold Remediation" in the workplace. Apparently, that "musty" odor originates when mold spores release microbial volatile organic compounds — who knew? And what in the world is a microbial volatile organic compound? In all seriousness, untreated mold growth in buildings can, in some cases, produce mycotoxins, which contribute to adverse health effects like immune system suppression, acute or chronic liver or nervous system damage, endocrine effects and cancer. Too bad there is no shot to inoculate you against those bad boys.

winners&losers

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture?
The Campus gives its weekly report.

Obama

Every other respectable news source is calling the race for Obama.

McCain

"Misses Palin! I want to fly into your airspace!"

Dashed Dementors

A near fatal kiss doesn't faze the Middlebury squad.

Battell Beach

... sadly we won't be able to transfigure those mudflats.

Chastity

Let freedom ring.

Over Indulgence

Seven Deadly Sins.
I deadly stretch hummer.

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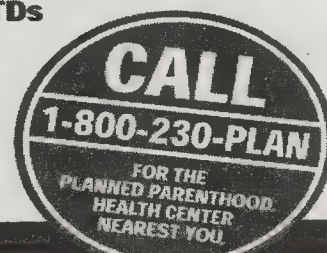
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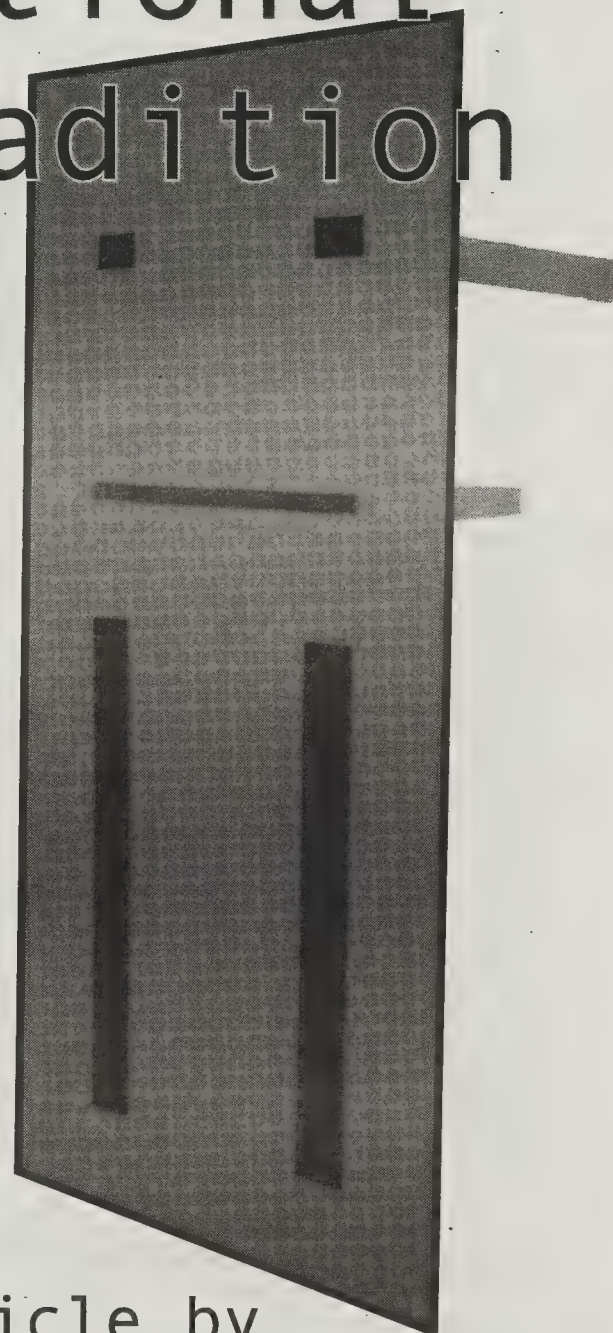
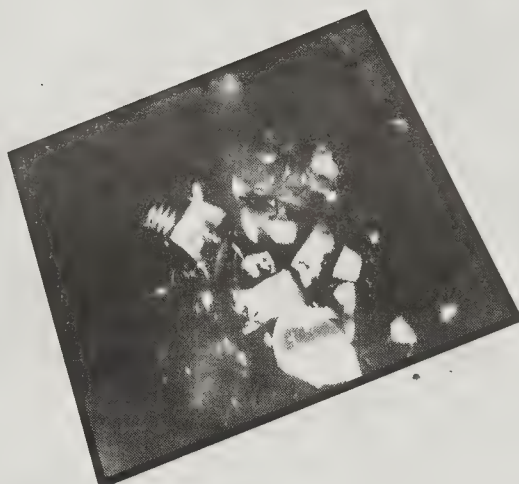
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VACA's unconventional struggle with tradition



article by
Melissa Marshall
photography by
Grace Duggan

With its labyrinthine staircases and industrial open spaces, the Brutalist architecture of the Christian A. Johnson Memorial Building screams as the ideal location for a social event dedicated to a holiday that celebrates the offbeat, the strange and the creative. For three out of the last four years, the Vitality of the Artistic Community Association (VACA) has successfully claimed the space for their annual — and increasingly popular — Halloween bash. This weekend, however, students may be forced to battle out lines at the Bunker or navigate the maze of social houses as a full weekend of visual arts exhibits could render the building off-limits as the venue for the student organization's most anticipated event of the year.

Founded in 1998, VACA fosters an awareness of the visual arts on campus through student exhibitions as well as guest lecturers. Given its contribution and connection to the Middlebury College art community, the organization prides itself on its association with one of the most visually interesting spaces on campus.

"Over the years it has become our most recognizable extension of us as a club," said VACA Co-President Rachael Carasquillo '09. "The Johnson space is not used by any other organization for anything else, so it has that connection to us as an art club."

Besides its role as an academic building, Johnson Memorial also hosts the largest and most notable exhibition space for works by both student and visiting artists. In addition to "Sculptures in a Form of a Chair" featuring work by Form & Structure in Sculpture students and "Pinhole Photography" showcasing prints by the Black & White Photography class, an exhibition by Cameron Visiting Architect Brian Healey will also be on display in the lobby through the weekend. The College hosts one Cameron Visiting Architect per year, exposing the community to cutting-edge designs and public lectures.

"So far it has gone well and we expect it to continue to do so because of the favorable word of mouth that is going around the circle of potential future candidates," History of Art & Architecture/Studio Art Department Coordinator Monica McCabe wrote in an Oct. 21st e-mail. "Damage to a CVA's work during a Halloween party would be a major strike against what we have going thus far."

McCabe's fears are not unfounded. In 2005, student work from Professor of Studio Art Eric Nelson's class suffered damages after a former student sat in several of the chairs and, more recently, two students were arrested in connection with an altercation with officers from the College's Department of Public Safety during the 2007 Halloween party.

VACA Co-President Alex Benepe '09, however, has outlined a number of steps to prevent the recurrence of former incidents, including covering the walls, blocking off areas and even removing artwork for the evening.

"In my mind, as long as nothing is damaged, everything is put away safely and there are people who are willing to do it at no inconvenience to the professors with the work not missing viewing time, I don't see what the big deal is," said Benepe.

The movement and subsequent re-installation of three exhibitions will require dedication, manpower and the approval of both artists and professors — a goal that Benepe continues to diligently work towards.

"I appreciate the Art Department's willingness to negotiate with me, even though it is interrupting its schedule," said Benepe.

Despite the inconvenience, Benepe hopes that the College will recognize the importance of available student social outlets — especially on a day as widely celebrated as Halloween. While MCAB and the Commons system provide week-end events, they are often sparsely attended, and with a capacity of 250 people, students face getting turned away from the Bunker.

SEE HALLOWEEN, PAGE 19<#>

editors' picks

30 Commonplaces Johnson Memorial Building 304 7 p.m.

Visiting architect Brian Healey will give this lecture on American architectural projects of the past twenty years as part of the "Architecture &..." series, jointly organized by the College and Bread Loaf Architects, Planners and Builders.

01 The Counterfeiters Dana Auditorium 3 and 8 p.m.

This unorthodox morality play, which won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film last March, is concerned with a Jewish criminal enlisted by the Nazis to counterfeit international currency.

01 Slightly Stoopid Higher Ground South Burlington 8 p.m.

Southern Californian fusion band Slightly Stoopid will perform an undoubtedly energized, presumably numbing concert Saturday evening. Higher Ground is just a hop, skip and a jump up Rte. 7 in sprawling South Burlington.

02 Keller Quartett MCFA Concert Hall 3 p.m.

This young Hungarian quartet will perform a curious mélange of Mozart, Kurtág and Schubert. Tickets are \$5 for Middlebury students and \$20 for general admission.

'Traitor' an uneven performance

By Robert McKay
STAFF WRITER

The wall clicks on, 1500 square feet of TV static. In contemporary dance, this is about as original a backdrop as the Doric columns behind every early Renaissance saint and his brother. The font, however, is very nice, some kind of chunky ultra-bold with slab serifs. But the words are about as interesting as the static: "There. Is. No. Absolute. Truth. At. The. Quantum. Level." Full stop. Lisa Gonzales '94 is doubling over and popping back up very rapidly, as if afflicted with whooping cough. Slab serif: "And we wonder why our hearts break."

Aside from this laughably cerebral attempt to break my heart, the opener to "Traitor," Gonzales' three-part program with Darrell Jones had some interesting moments. Like the entire program, the piece — entitled "the things themselves" — sometimes thrived and sometimes languished on stark juxtapositions in the dancer's register and tone.

Much of Gonzales' movements in the first piece were jittery, uncontrolled and deliberately un-dancelike. The performance gained tension from her constantly "breaking" and regaining character. However, unlike Jones' character in his solo piece, Gonzales' was ill-defined, with no real narrative or emotional arc emerging from her stomping circumnavigations of the stage; it sometimes looked like she was heading for the Ministry of Silly Walks. Nor did much purpose shine through in her final actions, though they were interesting in and of themselves. At one point, Gonzales opened the wooden box she had placed in a lone spot at the beginning, removed a cocktail umbrella and held it up against a stereo thunderstorm complete with the sounds of car tires carving through puddles. As she slowly backed upstage, the audience got some sense of her as a vulnerable, empathetic figure, but this potentially engaging moment was most unfortunately diluted by Rumi babbling something about "new organs of perception" on the giant TV screen — I think I may have needed some new organs to appreciate whatever it was Gonzales was getting at.

Jones' solo, "third Swan from the end" made better use of its huge leaps in register. Jones' strong, straight-limbed articulation of popular dance vocabulary was arresting. When he "broke character" and went into a casual register of movement and speech, his appeals to the audience were engaging in a sort of front-porch raconteur style. Apropos of the vogue dancing he brought to the stage, Jones took a DJ's sampling approach to the piece, ripping sometimes rough segues between spoken word poetry, dialogue from *The Color Purple*, a story about gender ambiguity and a fascinating bit about Othello. Here, Jones pointed out three imaginary characters in distinct positions on the stage: Othello here, Desdemona there, Iago there. He then walked through all three positions, perhaps identifying himself with all three characters. He identifies the characters as "black man; white woman; me." Jones as Iago does not seem to fit anywhere, but Jones as halfway between black and white, male and female perhaps does. This would also make sense of the odd anecdote Jones tells about seeing a guy in tough-looking Army fatigues and a "hood cap" walking through Harlem in stilettos. So although there may have been some Shakespearian method to the madness, it was Jones' magnetism as a storyteller that kept the piece from falling apart. Well, that and the fantastic vogue solo he gave us at the end.

Jones and Gonzales came together in the final duet, "Traitor," which transcended the headiness of the solos and delivered something emotional, playful and unexpected. The vocabulary of sampling and breaking character was in its



Nicholas Sohl

Lisa Gonzales '94, above, performs a solo in "Traitor."

highest form here, with a tango dip leading into an aikido move whereby Gonzales brought Jones to the floor and his head came to rest in her lap. In this moment, repeated later in the piece, the two figures were immensely compelling. We have just watched so much drain out of them: the heterosexual tension of tango, the violence of martial arts and even the stylization of dance itself are gone. They face us in an intimate posture that is impossible to read, or rather, one that lends itself to many readings: parent and child, lovers, best friends.

This wonderfully open-ended quality in the intimacy between Gonzales and Jones had its prologue in Jones' solo, in which Othello and Desdemona prepare the audience for loaded heterosexual and racial tensions. The rest of Jones' piece worked to thoroughly remix his identity, so by the time the finale took place the audience was prepared for the strange kinds of intimacy shown by the dancers. It was an intimacy that flowed effortlessly between choreographed identities and reached a magical space where two human beings interact intensely in a situation with identity pretty much forgotten.

Even the boundary between child and adult was blurred, in the sense that Jones and Gonzales were engaged in the most intense, serious kind of play. They were like children engaged in wild, imaginative roles. "What do you want to do now?" Jones asked. "Let's drink each other," Gonzales responded. These little verbal check-ins stitched the dance segments together, implying that Gonzales and Jones were engaged in a collaborative project of immense importance. Throughout these mesmerizing exchanges, the music made similarly good use of incongruity as funk and minor-key arias played off of each other, the latter lending the dancers' dreamlike frolics an apt quality of goofy seriousness. Jones and Gonzales are to be commended for letting their imaginations and hunches roam free on this last piece — it was a redeeming conclusion to a somewhat rough program.



Nicholas Sohl

Darrell Jones, above, performed beautiful contortions in "traitor," a piece sometimes as intricate and warped as some of his movements.



for the record

by Grace Duggan

Rock 'n' roll may have developed in the United States, but almost immediately afterwards it became difficult to pigeonhole it as a uniquely American phenomenon. Rock music has cemented its influence everywhere from CBGB and the Viper Room to Wembley Stadium and Budokan, but what about the rock bands who don't necessarily care about making it across the pond or being huge in Japan?

Souvenir is one such band. Formed in Pamplona, Spain in 1999, this electro-pop rock duo has released four albums, including last year's *64*. Thankfully, unlike bands like *Nous Non Plus* (who performed at Middlebury in recent years) Souvenir doesn't camp up their Francophile status — they may sing in French, but they still remember what side of the Pyrenees they grew up on. On their web site they describe *64* as a collection of songs "interwoven with the different vocabularies of techno-pop, new wave, 80s dance music ... sung with Patricia's beautiful voice and Jaime's 'surf' guitar touch." The energetic songs — complete with more than their fair share of Bauhaus-inspired music videos and cover art — let Patricia de la Fuente's light vocals shine through and withstand the rock and electronic accompaniments supplied by Jaime Cristóbal (and the occasional help of a full band). "Accident à Londres," the album's opening track, has it all: twangy guitars, ethereal synthesizer melodies and de la Fuente singing husky, desperate lines that sound good regardless of how much French you remember from high school.

Some Spaniards do in fact stick to their mother tongue, including Barcelona-based Refree, Raúl Fernández's latest project (he also sings in Catalan). Formerly of influential Spanish indie band the Corn Flakes, Fernández began recording as Refree in 2003 and continues as lead singer of Élena. On his Web site his music is described as a successful union "of sounds, rhythms, instruments, collaborations ... [and] a markedly urban and modern profile ... [that] confirm a body of work simultaneously a concave and convex mirror in which all of our expectations are reflected." His sweeping songs and beautiful lyrics make albums like *Els Invertebrats* and *Quitamiedos* important rock/electronica works in the contemporary Spanish music scene.

If you were that kid that didn't like your peas touching your mashed potatoes, maybe you don't like all that electronica mixed in with your rock 'n' roll. Maybe you're just a purist. In either case, Mexico's recent rock scene merits more than a cursory glance. The now-defunct Zurdok got its start in the city of Monterrey with a sound not altogether unrelated to English groups like Oasis and The Verve. Make use of the \$0.99 downloads on iTunes and listen to songs off of *Hombre Sintetizador*, such as the creeping "Nos vemos en la luna" and "¿Cuántos pasos?," complete with strings and simple, ambivalent musings on a dead-end love. *Maquillaje* features a number of memorable tracks, including the single "Estático," a tight, irresistible track with an addictive hook and a delivery reminiscent of — stay with me here — post-Beatles John Lennon records, particularly *Double Fantasy*.

Also from Monterrey is Kinky, a band of continuing importance and prominence in the Mexican rock scene. Ridiculous name aside, the best part of the band is their genuine integration of Mexican music traditions into the rock genre. Case in point: the sweet accordion melody on "Sister Twisted" off of *Reina*, their 2006 release preceding last month's iTunes-only debut of *Barracuda*. See also: the Latin percussion-heavy "Más" and "¿A dónde van los muertos?," a jumping, scratchy song with an accordion part you would expect from a lead guitarist or bass player. If Jethro Tull could make flutes cool, maybe the accordion isn't so bad. Also make sure to listen to their wonderfully subversive cover of Wall of Voodoo's bizarre hit, "Mexican Radio."

What about the rest of the world? Well, this is a column, not an encyclopedia. Past these four bands, I guess sites like www.muzikalia.com, www.comimonpeoplesmusic.com and www.mondosonora.com will have to do.

'Talk Radio' forces Zoo audience to tune in

By Emma Stanford
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, a team of Middlebury students led by director Matrina Bonolis '10.5 brought an audience back to the Reagan era to witness the inner turmoil of an acerbic, misanthropic radio host. "Talk Radio" was performed in Hepburn Zoo, if *performed* is an appropriate word. More accurately, "Talk Radio" seized its audience by the throat.

The play, written in 1987 by Eric Bogosian, centers on Barry Champlain (Dustin Schwartz '10), the slightly dysfunctional host of a local radio program called Night Talk. We see Barry's show on the night that it is being tested for national syndication. He plows through one oddball caller after another, abusing every political fraud and ridiculing every paranoid loner. Exasperating his coworkers at the radio station, Barry entertains a number of the wildest callers, shrugs off a bomb threat and invites a witless teenager to the show. In the end, however, he realizes that by ridiculing the world he is running away from it.

The claustrophobic space of Hepburn Zoo was used to enhance this in-your-face show. Barry Champlain sat at a metal desk scant feet away from the audience, with the other characters seated behind him, fielding calls and pouring coffee. In many cases the characters were closer to the audience than to each other. In one particularly well-staged scene, Barry and his assistant and love interest Linda (Cassidy Boyd '10) discussed their relationship on air, facing away from each other at opposite corners of the stage. Tense moments of dialogue were framed by advertisements for cigarettes and Harry's Restaurant, powerfully conveying the conflicts between public and private, real and commercial, on a talk radio program.

The success of a show like "Talk Radio" completely depends on the quality of the lead actor. As Barry Champlain, Schwartz was compelling and believable. He channeled the cynicism and energy of a young Dustin Hoffman, by turns misanthropic and

compassionate. Slumped at his desk, swigging liquor or snorting cocaine, he perfectly captured the character of a dissipated idealist at odds with the world.

The show lagged, however, when the lights dimmed and one of the other three Night Talk workers described his or her relationship with Barry. Although these monologues offered an insight into the commoditization of a radio host, their substance and delivery seemed clichéd. As producer Dan Woodruff, Starrett Berry '09 in particular seemed to draw on every predictable gesture in the book: the set jaw, the sarcastic slow clap. Jimmy Wong '09.5 and Boyd offered more depth as they described their personal relationships with Barry Champlain, and J.P. Allen '11 nailed the character of a self-obsessed wannabe punk teenager, but Schwartz's performance made the show. Fielding callers, he treated the audience to one acerbic response after another. To a conservative caller protesting his endorsement of drug legalization, he snapped, "Drugs are not the problem. America is." When a neo-Nazi sent him a package purportedly containing a bomb, he stared at it calmly while the other characters panicked. When he opened the package and unfolded a swastika flag, the audience went quiet until he threw it on as a cape and started goose-stepping. Audience and characters alike were constantly waiting on his mercurial judgment, whether manifested as grim wit ("Stop crying, you're upsetting the baby," he told a pregnant teenager) or grimmer despair as he realized the shallowness of his work.

The show's best advantage was that it drew the audience so completely into the story. The audience was made privy to the reality and illusion of talk radio, as Barry fabricated a moving story about the Holocaust and then knocked back his drink. We saw the emotional strain placed on a talk radio host by his crazy callers. As Barry became disillusioned with humanity, so did we. At the end of the show, when Barry raced through caller after caller looking for a voice of sanity, the



Denise Hoffman

Dustin Schwartz '10 wowed audiences with his depiction of a cynical, acerbic radio host.

ensuing moments of dead silence were excruciating for an audience so invested in his character.

That kind of immediacy unfortunately came at a price. When Barry Champlain's attitude switched from hard-bitten satire to compassionate despair, it was difficult for such a devoted audience to switch with him. After being fed caricatured callers like so much hard candy, the audience could not be convinced, through a few serious moments, that no human life deserves ridicule. But throughout the play the callers' voices (rendered by actors offstage) had been cartoonish and their views extreme, whether propounding anti-Semitism or wondering why people

that Weiser doesn't give the actors characters with any depth or personality. They are about as fully realized as their counterparts on SNL sketches. The brush strokes are too broad to find fleshed-out characters; all we are left with is one defining attribute per character. Ellen Burstyn's Barbara Bush is a hairpiece, Richard Dreyfus' Dick Cheney is shifty and Scott Glen's Donald Rumsfeld is insane.

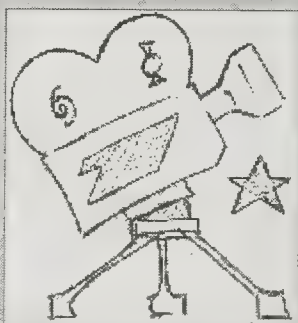
Only three of the actors preserve their dignity. Geoffrey Wright nails the inner turmoil of Colin Powell — an army man torn between what he knows is right and his commander-in-chief. Elizabeth Banks plays First Lady Laura Bush with a quiet grace and dignity that is incredibly appealing, until her character is pushed into the background. And what of Josh Brolin as the title character? This performance, along with last year's "No Country for Old Men," should propel him into the acting stratosphere. He straddles a fine line between broad mannerisms that the public knows and a man reeling while trying to step out of his father's shadow and find himself. He doesn't lose dignity amidst Stone's desire to get a cheap laugh by peppering his dialogue with legendary Bushisms. It is simply a marvelous piece of acting that truly deserves a better film behind it.

"W." was rushed through production so that it could be released before the election. Given the result, one can't help but wonder why this project couldn't have waited five months so the script could go through a few more drafts. The people we are watching onscreen are still making decisions that effect the direction of our country. For Stone to throw them up onscreen so we can laugh at their character flaws seems to miss the point. The final scene in the film is a fantasy that shows Bush playing center field for the Texas Rangers. A fly ball is hit his way, but when he looks up to catch the ball he sees that it has disappeared. In a way, Stone is like Bush in this sequence. Stone did not just drop the ball; he had no idea where it was in the first place.

couldn't keep a steady job, the baseball-loving Bush, the failed Congressional candidate Bush, the born-again Christian Bush and Governor Bush. Even if you have only a rudimentary knowledge of the man, nothing you see is new information. The only new information presented is Stone's hypothesis that Bush's entire legacy is due to his inability to receive his father's approval. Either way, one can't shake the feeling that screenwriter Stanley Weiser did no research beyond reading an article in the *New York Times*. Events pop onscreen with the subtlety of a PowerPoint presentation. You can almost hear an off-screen voice saying, "...and this is when W. bought a baseball team."

Then again, subtlety has never been Stone's calling card. He has always been a blowhard whose showmanship tended to get in the way of story, character and message. Here, Stone makes an egregious error in judgment and attempts to get into the head of Bush by creating fantasy/dream sequences that rival the most asinine moments of "Natural Born Killers" in terms of sheer stupidity. Bush is shown wandering around an empty baseball stadium, and in case the audience didn't catch Stone's theory about W's oedipal complex, he dreams of boxing against his father in the Oval Office. Even when Stone is not attempting to enter the subconscious of our 43rd President, he makes his authorial (and make no mistake, he is the author of this film) presence known. Characters come in and out of focus during key moments, real footage of the Iraq War is spliced together with re-enactments of Bush photo-ops and other photographic tricks are used so the audience knows exactly which moments are the important ones.

For the most part, the actors find themselves in the weeds. Thandie Newton is unspeakably horrible as Condoleezza Rice, and Toby Jones' Karl Rove is missing a mischievous malevolence that would have made the character memorable. Part of the problem is



THE REEL CRITIC

by Jason Gutierrez

MOVIE | W.
DIRECTOR | Oliver Stone
STARRING | Josh Brolin

I feel that a critic, even an amateur one like myself, should make every attempt to go into the film he is reviewing with as few preconceived notions as possible. I must admit that when I entered the theater to watch Oliver Stone's latest offering, the George W. Bush biopic "W.," I did not enter the theater with a clear mind. I expected to see a film that anti-Bush audiences would love and pro-Bush audiences would vilify. But I was shocked to see Stone follow a different tactic. Instead of the morally bankrupt portrait I was expecting, Stone creates a charcoal sketch of a sincere man-child struggling to win his father's approval. That is, unfortunately, the most surprising thing about "W." The rest is a wildly uneven film that is too obsequious to be inflammatory and too condescending to be thought-provoking.

Stone's film jumps back and forth in time, temporally grounding the audience during President Bush's planning and execution of the War in Iraq, but using that time period as the jumping off point to show us Bush at various stages in his life. We are shown the party-hard Bush at Yale, the Bush that

Suggestion Box

From our bookshelves, iPods and laptops to your Thursday morning breakfast table, here are our recommendations for the best of recent culture.



"Warhol Live"
Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
Now through Jan. 18th, 2009 the museum features an incredible Andy Warhol exhibition focused on the influence of music

and dance on his art. An enjoyable barrage against the senses, the exhibit includes album covers, silkscreens, photographs, screen tests, previously unreleased audio, you name it...

— Grace Duggan

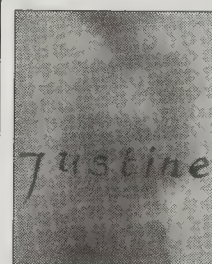


Log House
Sou Fujimoto Architects

This gorgeous villa, for lack of a better term, is built entirely from lumber logs and yet is still a functional space. Its inhabitants can

crawl up to the kitchen, and crawl down to the bathroom. It is probably not the greatest place for entertaining, but who really cares?

— Andrew Throdahl



Justine
Lawrence Sanders (Faber & Faber, 1957)
The first of Lawrence Sanders' sweeping The Alexandria Quartet, Justine introduces and enraptures readers with the nameless

young narrator as he situates himself in one of the world's oldest cities. Slowly seductive and quietly intoxicating, Justine burns with Sanders' crafted prose and philosophy, establishing The Alexandria Quartet as one of the most under-read English works of the 20th century.

— Melissa Marshall

Lecture frames the contemporary portrait

By Isabel McWilliams
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty alike could not help but react with excited laughter, intrigued head nods and surprised exclamations as Director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art and Walter Cerf Distinguished College Professor of History of Art & Architecture Richard Saunders gave a lecture entitled "The Contemporary Portrait in American Society." The exciting lecture was based on his current book, "The American Face: Portraiture and Identity in American Culture."

Professor Saunders prefaced his lecture with an introduction that demonstrated his authority on the subject of American portraiture. He wrote his dissertation on 18th-century American portraiture, which was eventually transformed into two books, one of which was on John Smibert, the first trained professional painter of the pre-Revolutionary era. During Saunders' career at the Middlebury College Museum of Art, he arranged an exhibition of 100 drawings by Horatio Greenough, the first prominent American sculptor. These drawings inspired him to question the meaning of portraits and their function in society, and to ultimately go beyond their art historical nature and explore their social implications. With the benefit of this enlarged perspective, Saunders carried his audience through a wide-ranging

open approach to identifying its cultural significance. Traditional portraits of important historical figures have now become icons, no longer seen as portraits of a particular individual; they are now likely to seem stiff, formal and unmemorable — even innovative paintings such as Stuart's portrait of George Washington or Eakins Dr. Samuel Gross ("The Gross Clinic"). Not only are these over-familiar portraits now thoroughly displaced from their original context, they become further estranged from their original nature when appropriated to advertisements. To create the Samuel Adams beer insignia, Copley's two portraits, one of Paul Revere and the other of Samuel Adams, were combined.

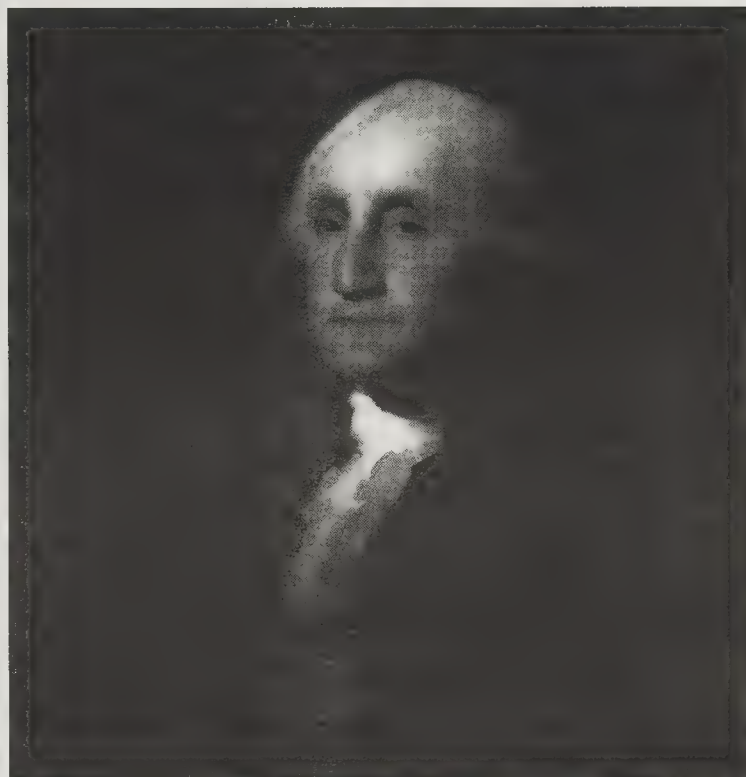
That there is no resemblance between contemporary portraiture and that of the historical past is a common misconception. Many would consider the portrait miniature to be passé, whereas in fact miniatures are prolific in today's society; think about the pictures in our wallets. During the last few years, the "daddy dolls" that depict the fathers of children who are soldiers in Iraq demonstrate another kind of miniature portrait, although we don't think of them as such. One form of portraiture also immune to societal changes is caricature, which satirizes aspects and images of every day life. Many forget that statues are also portraits, not just commemorations of long past historical events or leaders. Having added celebrities to the repertoire of sculpture, statues currently range from Nascar idols and Mickey Mouse to Martin Luther King — their staggering size and numbers contributing to the phenomenon Saunders referred to as "the modern bronze age."

The traditional portrait was almost always commissioned, yet although limited today, many of these portraits disguise their commis-

sioned nature. An online "portrait" of President of the College Ronald D. Leibowitz is a photograph made to look informal so as to conceal its staged nature. In this manner, colleges, clubs, presidents and institutions of every sort still commission portraits. Formally framed portraits on the wall are similar to pictures of ourselves and others on our dorm room walls; surrounding ourselves with images either creates our identity or confirms the identity we believe we already have.

Saunders reminded the audience not to disregard the photographs we take of ourselves today, casual or not, just because they do not immediately resemble the traditional portraiture style. The use of portraiture as a recording device has not changed; we have "I belong here" portraits, such as team portraits, and "I know someone" portraits in which having our picture taken with someone gives us significance through association. We also have "I won" portraits which assert identity through experience, "I made it" portraits such as graduation or marathon portraits, and the "I am in charge" portraits that many leaders rely on to assert their institutional authority.

Tension between those who quickly dismiss the traditional portrait form and those



Courtesy

Richard Saunders challenged the misconception that there is no resemblance between contemporary portraiture and that of the historical past.

who disdain works they do not believe to be "art" will always persist. Nevertheless, portraiture has always reinforced certain characteristics of our identity as much as it constructs it — Facebook is a perfect example. When looking at a picture of ourselves, the "that doesn't look like me" reaction shows that we have a preconceived personalized idea of our identity, and expect it to be outwardly evident. In truth, traditional and contemporary forms of portraiture stand side by side — of the two commissioned portraits of President Emeritus John McCardell, one is a traditional portrait, the other is a hologram, a form that depends upon changing interaction between the subject and the viewer.

Traditional portraits of important historical figures have now become icons.

— Richard Saunders

presentation that focused on the social implications of American portraiture from its beginning to the very present.

Addressing the current misconceptions related to portraiture, Saunders entertained an

Halloween tradition faces grave location change

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

"Halloween is a party night — and it would suck for everyone, students and Public Safety alike, if there weren't several large venues where students could celebrate," said Benepe.

The Studio Art Department seems less than assured, despite Benepe's earnest proposal.

"The reality is, you are unfortunately requesting to use the space on a weekend when

we have more student (and visiting artist) work up than on a typical weekend," McCabe wrote to Benepe in an email on Oct. 20. "If VACA is all about a vital artistic community it seems logical that you would support keeping work up, not taking it down."

Benepe, while understanding the seeming paradox in the organization's request, argues that the Halloween party creates foot traffic

in a building many students would never have the occasion to enter during their academic career.

The alternate location for the popular student tradition would be The Mill — a move that VACA leaders fear will undermine the unique vibe of the VACA event.

"The great thing about the Johnson Halloween party is that it gets all types of students,

whereas many students don't go to Mill parties on principle," Benepe said. "The Johnson space is more neutral."

"If we have this party at the Mill, it will just become another Mill party — it won't be the VACA party," added Carrasquillo. "We need to bring the party back into something positive rather than all the negative hype it has assembled over the years."

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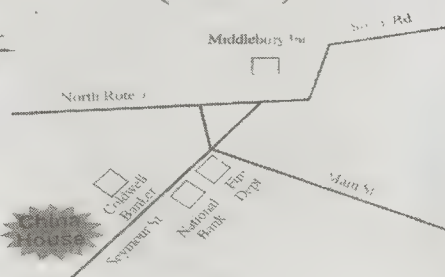
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Halloween Commons Creep

Friday, October 31, 2008

8:30: Atwater Costume Contest and Treats! Atwater Dining Hall Patio

9:00: Cook Thriller Dance Party: Lower Forest

9:30: Wonnacott Blacklight Ball: Gifford Annex

10:00: Brainerd Haunted House: Hepburn Basement

10:30: Ross Bluegrass Band: Fireplace Lounge

11:00: Bunker Halloween Party featuring DJ Ben Schiffer

*First 250 to make it through the Creep get a free t-shirt at Rossi!

Men's rugby blanks Coast Guard and Maine

By James Schwerdtman
STAFF WRITER

The men's rugby club had an intense weekend of play, clinching the New England Rugby Football Union Championship for the fourth consecutive year. The Panthers continued the undefeated streak they have enjoyed since the beginning of the season, defeating Coast Guard 27-0 on Saturday, Oct. 25 and topping the University of Maine the following day 34-0. While the victory over Maine was certainly greater in that it clinched the New England Championships, the victory over Coast Guard was even more satisfying for the Panthers.

The Bears have become the perennial rivals of the Panthers, as it seems that almost every year they meet up at some point in playoff competition. "Coast Guard has always been a physical team," said rugby club president Max Levine '09. "We spent two and a half days this week concentrating on hard nosed, in your face play, the style of play that Coast Guard dominates." The Bears had a bit of an off year this season, finishing third in their division,



Nick Fager '09 splits two defenders during Middlebury's impressive weekend, displaying the speed that propelled the Panther offense.

but there was never a letdown in the intensity Middlebury brought to the pitch.

"Coast Guard is probably the biggest rivalry Middlebury has, especially in the playoffs," said Damen Davis '11. "Although we weren't playing them in the finals, the rivalry was hyped up as it always is."

As they normally do, the Coast Guard relied on the strength of their forwards to pound the ball down the field. While this strategy has worked for them in the past, Saturday's match was a different story.

"This was the first time in my memory we were the more physical team than the Coast Guard," said Levine. "While there were a lot of great plays from our forwards and backs," said fly half Ben Cmejla '11, "it was our hard nosed defense that won the game."

Great plays from eight man Dan Chow '09 and lock Sam Tormey '09 in particular highlighted the defensive prowess the Panthers possess. Another bright spot was the play of flankers Rowan Kelner '12 and Ross Berriman '12.

On Sunday, the match-up against Maine was much more of a man-to-man battle. Hooker Chris Vandergrift '11 and wing Spencer Paddock '09 were particularly dominant.

"Vandergrift faced up against the all-Northeast captain," recounted Levine, "and he absolutely shut him down."

Paddock, who suffered a torn labrum in the second week of the season which still has not fully recovered, also contained his man in his first full game back since the injury. "He was matched up against their second best player," said Levine, "and in his first game back completely shut him down."



Allie Needham

While the stakes were high, the Panthers thrived under pressure in this weekend's playoffs.

The season continues for the Panthers this weekend with the quarterfinals of the Northeast Championships followed by the Northeast Finals the following weekend. The team knows there is still a long way to go before clinching the Northeast Championships, but feels very confident about its chances. Winning the Northeast will allow them to pursue the National Championship next spring, which they also won in 2007.

"We have a great shot to win nationals

this year," said flanker Chris Marshall '11. "We have a bunch of guys injured right now, and when we get them back for the spring, we'll be a lot stronger. There's no reason why we can't."

This year's team is the strongest there has been in a number of years, centered around a core of seniors and sophomores. "If we play as well as we did on Saturday," said Levine, "we can be competitive with most any team in the country."

Macnee's '12 goal late in regulation ensures tie

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

left in double overtime. As in the game against Norwich, Middlebury gave up a goal in the first half and went down 1-0. The score came from the Camels' Oscar Brown off of a header from an outside cross.

"Our team is not used to being down a goal," said Hart. "I think that since losing the Bates game, we have shown that we can get ourselves back in the game."

After the goal, the Panthers returned to the field with renewed vigor in the second half and skillfully facilitated offensive movement through the midfield.

"Although we picked up the intensity in the second half, I think we came out a little flat in the first and deserved to go down a goal early in the game," said Hart. "We need to play just as hard in the first minute of the game as we do in the last minute of the game."

Just as they had done in the Norwich game, the Panthers stepped on the pedal in the second half against Conn. College, proving that the squad currently ranked fifth nationally was determined to avoid another loss in the conference.

Deliverance came from Middlebury's lethal scorer Tyler Macnee '12 with 1:02 left in regulation. A deflection from Carson Cornbrooks '11 shot guided the ball toward tri-captain Baer Fisher '09, who assisted Macnee in his 11th goal of the season. Again, Middlebury saved itself from defeat with a last-minute effort. Although it did not result in a win, like it did against Norwich, the Panthers preserved the tie with a valiant overtime effort.

Macnee had a great chance in the first overtime with a shot from 12 yards out, but a diving save from Conn. College keeper Ted Lane thwarted his effort.

On the opposite side of the field, the Camels would have secured a victory had it not been for

Jake Edwards '11 heading a shot off the goal line.

Although the Panthers' philosophy this season has been "one game at a time," they are clearly cognizant of the looming NESCAC Tournament. "There has been a lot of parody in our league this year with many upsets," commented Hart. "After clinching first place in the NESCAC, it is now our job to come out and show each team we face why we are number one. We accomplished our goal of getting the home field advantage, and now it is up to us to defend it."

Senior tri-captain Brian Bush '09 commented, "Throughout the season, our team has shown incredible character and attitude. I think we are prepared to peak at the right time as we head into our last few games and the NESCAC tournament."

The Panthers' final NESCAC match will be at Williams on Oct. 31.



File Photo / Patrick Knise

Colin Nangle '10 narrowly wrests the ball from an opponent during a game earlier this year.

Bullpen catcher(s) of the week:

The Campus highlights Middlebury athletes whose contributions were vital to the game but did not necessarily show up in the box score. "Bullpen Catcher of the Week" honors those whose efforts go unnoticed to all except their teammates and coaches.

Men's soccer: Colin Nangle '10 & women's soccer: Anjuli Demers '10

Both Middlebury soccer teams have enjoyed successful seasons thus far largely on the merits of stifling defense. While these defenses rarely get the attention they deserve, two Panthers have stood out from the crowd.

For the women, centerback Anjuli Demers '10 anchors the back line. A three-year starter who was named first-team all NESCAC as a sophomore, Demers has been instrumental in the Panther's recent winning binge despite having only one point and two shots on the year. The Panthers have surrendered only two

goals in their last nine games, and that sort of dominance can only start at the center.

"She is a student of the game," says head coach Peter Kim "and works hard every day to make herself, her team and her teammates better."

The Middlebury men's defense has been equally as adept, allowing only five goals over twelve matches. Colin Nangle '10 in particular has enjoyed another stellar year. Like Demers, he is a three-year starter and last season he was one of only two Panthers to never leave the

field until the National Championship game.

"He will rarely appear in the box score," says head coach Dave Seward, "but he is the first name we put on our team sheet...Colin over his career has been the best back in the entire region. He is clearly one of the best I have ever coached in this 'unsung' position."

With Demers and Nangle anchoring the back lines, look for the Middlebury soccer teams to enjoy deep playoff runs starting with their home tilts on Nov. 2.

— Peter Baumann, Sports Editor



INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

In this week's edition of *Inside the Locker Room*, we examine who knows women's cross-country captain Hallie Fox '09 better: fellow teammate Tara Doyle '11 or roommate Abby Blum '09.

Some would say that Blum's advantage of having spent three years with Fox gives her a substantial edge over Doyle. While Blum may have the experience of three winter terms with her beloved Fox, Doyle has spent countless Sunday mornings with Fox running to Vergennes and back, where conversations regarding pieces of personal trivia were bound to arise.

So now with our competitors introduced, and the contest declared evenly keeled by yours truly, there is but one thing left to say: on your mark, get set, GO!

The smoke of the starting gun has settled, and our competitors are neck and neck. The first two questions should in theory provide Doyle with a lead as they pertain specifically to cross country, but Blum successfully keeps up as both are aware that granola is the breakfast of this champion, and that when it comes to sippin' the NESAC "Haterade," there is no team Fox hates more than the purple and gold.

The Campus tracks down Hallie Fox '09.5 for an interview

	Hallie Fox	Tara Doyle	Abby Blum
What is your go-to pre-race meal?	Granola	Granola (1)	Anything a squirrel might eat or granola. (1)
Which is the most hated NESAC rival?	Williams	Williams (1)	Williams (1)
Who is your favorite member of the Men's X-C team?	Brucey	All the captains (.5)	All the captains (.5)
Do you prefer the Backstreet Boys or N*SYNC?	Neither, only country.	Backstreet Boys (0)	Neither, Toby Keith. (1)
Who is your favorite US President?	Abe "The Babe" Lincoln.	Honest Abe (1)	Able Lincoln (1)
Which is your favorite "Reality" TV show?	The Hills	America's Next Top Model (0)	2008 Presidential Debates (0)
Who is the coolest professor at Middlebury?	Bert Johnson	Matt Dickinson (0)	Bert Johnson (1)
Final Score:		3.5	5.5

While both women are off to fast starts, neither is able to grasp that Fox does not like just any captain, but it is Bruce Hallett '10 who holds a special place in her little runner's heart.

A little under halfway through and the race

is a dead tie, but like any good long distance runner should know: *Inside the Locker Room* is not a sprint, but rather a marathon.

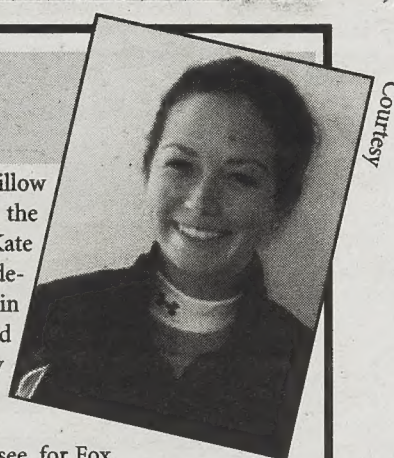
"Backstreet Boys or N*SYNC?" It is a simple question that almost any girl who wore a head-

gear while pillow fighting to the latest Mary-Kate and Ashley detective flick in the 90s would immediately be able to answer. But not Fox. You see, for Fox, boy bands are merely another thread in the tapestry of the pop music industry, and will therefore never be able to compare to her true love of country. And with this point in mind, Blum is able to take off.

While the race began as a nail bitter, it ultimately ended in a clear rout. From the boy band question onwards, Blum refuses to look back as she successfully nails two of the remaining three questions. Doyle, on the other hand, limps to the finish having only successfully answered one of the final three questions.

In the end, while the race started off hot, living with Fox gave Blum a distinct advantage which allowed her to pull away from the pack and get the win.

—Mike Panzer, staff writer



Courtesy



PANTHER SCOREBOARD

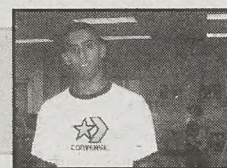
Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
10/25 10/26	Men's Rugby	US Coast Guard University of Maine	27-0 W 34-0 W	Middlebury once again displayed its dominance by defeating perennial rival Coast Guard. The Northeast quarters await.
10/24 10/25 10/25	Volleyball	Mt. Holyoke Wheaton Gordon	3-0 W 3-0 W 3-0 W	The volleyball team rampaged through the Hall of Fame Classic undefeated en route to the championship.
10/25	Women's rugby	University of Rhode Island	7-5 W	Tested for the first time this season, the women's rugby team still emerged victorious over the Rams and advanced to the semis.
10/25	Women's Soccer	Connecticut College	1-0 W	The Panthers have not allowed a goal in almost a month.
10/25	Field Hockey	Connecticut College	5-1 W	The field hockey team has outscored its opponents 18-1 over its last three games.



BY THE NUMBERS

0	Number of losses for the Middlebury volleyball team in its clean sweep through the Hall of Fame Classic.
3	Number of interceptions for safety Dan Haluska '10 against Trinity, tying a school record.
21	Number of career goals for Ashley Pfaff '09 of the women's soccer team, after scoring the lone goal in the Panthers' 1-0 win over Conn. College.
0	Number of goals the women's soccer team has allowed during its current four-game winning streak.
2	Number of double-overtime games played in by the men's soccer team over a four-day stretch this past week.

Editors' Picks



Guest editor of the week

Questions	Peter Baumann	Emma Gardner	Jeff Klein	Andrew Ngeow, Photos
Will the women's soccer team win its Halloween affair with undefeated Williams this Friday?	NO Past is prologue. The Ephs will upend the Panthers on the last weekend of the year for the third time in my tenure at Middlebury.	NO Like a senior citizen on Halloween offering mealy apples instead of candy, the Williams team will serve up something the Panthers don't much like.	NO Mad respect to the women's soccer team for its excellent defense as of late, though. I believe the team will battle Williams to a tie.	YES I see this team practice from the Ultimate Frisbee fields. They work hard.
Will the men's soccer team win its Halloween affair with Williams this Friday?	YES The Ephs will wear purple costumes to try and scare us (oh wait, they always wear purple) but our defense will not be deterred.	YES The Purple Cow will be out trick-or-treating and without its lame mascot, Williams will fold under pressure from the Panthers.	YES Tying the mediocre Camels of Conn. College will provide the Panthers extra motivation to defeat their archrivals.	YES I haven't watched this team practice, maybe that works in their favor.
Will the field hockey team win its Halloween affair with Williams this Friday?	YES So many jokes regarding halloween, costumes, skirts and sports, but thank goodness there's so little time.	YES The affair continues...	YES Thompson, Delano and company will pull out all the tricks on Halloween evening to score the victory for the Panthers.	YES What is this affair?
In the battle of the Lone Star State, who will win between top-ranked Texas and seventh-ranked Texas Tech?	TEXAS To beat Colt McCoy you need to have fast, athletic down-linemen. Tech has plenty of skill, but just not the speed up front to contend.	TEXAS As TECHNical as they may be (get it), they're still ranked seventh. The Longhorns will take the Lone Star State glory.	TEXAS OK, I give up. I can't pick against the Longhorns anymore.	TEXAS TECH Little known fact: Colt McCoy fears Robots.
Who will win the traditionally-competitive showdown between the Colts and Patriots?	PATRIOTS Because they better be really good — or the Broncos are really, really bad.	COLTS Reliving Superbowl XLI, baby.	COLTS The underachieving Indianapolis squad will return to form on its home turf against the Pats on Sunday night.	PATRIOTS Patriots? on horseback. Colts? horses. 'nuff said.
Career Record	70-50 (.583)	15-14 (.517)	38-42 (.475)	7-17 (.292)

Teeing Off



by Peter Baumann

I am awful at predicting college football. It is the one sport where I continually fail when trying to foresee the future, which is exactly why I love it. Like a dog who has not yet learned to respect the electric fence, I keep trying to make some sense of the chaos.

Four unbeaten teams remain from major conferences: Texas, Alabama, Penn State and Texas Tech. Fortunately, Texas and Texas Tech clash this weekend meaning that, by the time all is said and done, only three unbeaten teams will remain.

I see Texas knocking off the Red Raiders in Lubbock mainly because of Colt McCoy. His accuracy, combined with his ability to buy himself time in the pocket, makes him a nightmare for opposing defenses. The best way to beat Texas is with fast, athletic defensive linemen that can pressure McCoy while keeping seven men in coverage. While he might encounter this in the SEC, the Texas Tech front-four is just not good enough to slow him down.

A victory here for Texas leaves games with Baylor, Kansas, Texas A&M and whoever emerges from the Big 12 North (likely Missouri). While the emotional toll of playing four top-ten teams in consecutive weeks might wear down the Longhorns, they will be favored in each game. Look for them to run the table and swipe one of the spots in the BCS Title Game.

Alabama is a bit of an enigma. Against talented opponents they have played impressive football; their victory against Georgia trails only "USC 35 — Ohio St. 3" in terms of quality wins. But lapses against Kentucky and Mississippi scare me. Between Nick Saban's return to Death Valley on Nov. 8 and the SEC title game, I don't see the Crimson Tide finishing the season unscathed.

Penn State has spent most of the season winning with offense, but put up a dominant defensive effort against the Buckeyes last weekend. With remaining games against Iowa, Indiana and Michigan State, the chances of the Nittany Lions being undefeated at season's end are very good. Do you really think voters will jump a one-loss team over the top of a Joe Paterno-coached team? Out of all the undefeated teams they have the best chance of making it to the title game.

But let's say I'm wrong and Texas or Penn State slips up; which one-loss team enters the fray? Oklahoma is the highest-ranked one-loss team in the BCS, but the voters are slow to move a team that doesn't appear in its Conference Title Game into the National Championship.

How about Georgia or Florida? Both teams have impressive wins on their résumés, but each boast equally impressive defeats. Georgia was outscored 31-0 in the first half against Alabama at home, and Florida lost to that traditional power: Ole Miss. The winner of their tilt this weekend will have a case, but there is still one team better.

That would, of course, be USC. If USC were to play any team in the nation at a neutral site this weekend, wouldn't they be favored? With the possible exception of Texas there is no team in the country better than the Trojans and the voters recognize this. If their defense, which has surrendered only one touchdown in the last three weeks, continues to play this well, USC will be the best one-loss team in the country come the end of November.

So there is where we stand. I am predicting a Texas-Penn State title game, with the caveat that Penn State-USC is a pretty good possibility too. What can you predict? Only that I will almost certainly be wrong. After all, that is why I love college football.

Women's rugby captures first playoff game

By Molly West
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury women's rugby team won its first playoff game 7-5 Saturday in a tense, grueling match against the University of Rhode Island Rams. In anticipation of the game, captain Rachel Korschun '09 correctly stated: "This is going to be a tough game and we will [need to] step up the level of play we've been facing throughout the season." Indeed, the game did prove the most competitive contest thus far this season.

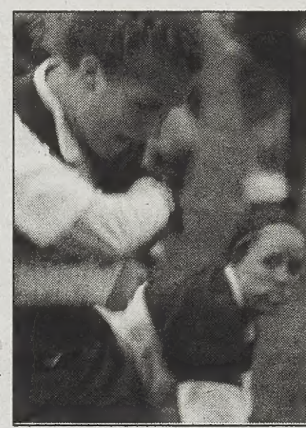
Middlebury entered the game Saturday with full force and heads held high. Coming off of a win against Keene State, Brittany McAdams '09 commented that, although "we had to sit some strong starting players last Saturday — Emma Lennon '11, and Evan Pagano '12 — we still ended up winning 109-0, which really shows the depth of our team." Korschun added that the team has

"a lot of flexibility which was shown through the efforts of Justine Jackson '10, and Kristina Brown '10, who played a different position than she normally plays in the Keene match." When asked what she was anticipating for Saturday's game, McAdams responded, "While we're expecting a tough match this Saturday, we are also very confident in our team's ability to come out on top. Not only are we entering playoffs undefeated, but we've also shut out every team we've played so far."

Saturday's game, however, was a nail-biter. The fans watched with excitement and nervousness as the two powerhouses took the field. The action of the game emerged right from the get-go. Middlebury gained the upper hand when Emily Coles '09 scored for the Panthers and gave them the early advantage. Amelia Magistrali '09 made the conversion shortly after, adding another two points to

Middlebury's score.

However, Rhode Island's strong attack soon translated into points for them as well, as the team scored to tighten the score to 7-5. The climax of the game occurred when the Rams' Brittany McAdams '09

Allie Needham
Brittany McAdams '09 displays intensity under fire.

kicker lost her opportunity to tie the game up by missing the conversion, resulting in Middlebury's victory.

The team now looks forward to next weekend's semifinals game that most likely will be played on the road against a yet-to-be-determined opponent. When asked what the team is focusing on in this crucial point in the season, McAdams responded, "Our main focus is keeping our defensive-line strong and playing a smart game for the full 80 minutes. We also want to make sure we have a fluid connection between our forward pack and back line in order to allow us to use all of our strengths."

Heading into the playoffs this past weekend, Middlebury was ranked number one in its division by the New England Rugby Foundation. Because rugby is not yet a varsity sport at the intercollegiate level, the club level consists of the top rugby players in the nation.

The team's success thus far is quite an accomplishment, and the Panther faithful wait in suspense for the results of this weekend's semifinal matchup.



Allie Needham

While the women eventually came out on top, the match proved a tough one for Middlebury.

Athlete and coach share mutual admiration

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Bane on Oct. 19, Coach Beaney reflected on the "honor and privilege to coach him ... and to have been coached by him" over the past four-and-a-half years.

From his start as a first-year on the team in spring 2005, Bane shined as a promising young talent with a thorough appreciation for the sport. After all, Bane had fought for every opportunity to play, pushing aside the severe physical obstacles that had threatened to stand in his way since early childhood. Diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer at the age of four, Bane spent a great deal of his youth battling through surgery after surgery and months at a time on crutches or in a brace, with the disease serving as a constant reminder of the importance of determination and faith in oneself.

These days, when he comes off the course Bane devotes hours of his time to community outreach programs. He often visits schools throughout northern Vermont and New York, interacting with students, sharing his stories of athletic and personal triumph and encouraging others to realize their own aspirations despite the adversity they may face. He has continually inspired his peers, always emphasizing the positive effect that his passion for athleticism has had on his success in life.

As a result of his unceasing optimism and resolve, Bane has become an outstanding athlete with a rarely matched depth of understanding of what it takes to be truly "the best," as he has been described by his coach. In his speech at the NEIGA ceremony, Beaney emphasized the reciprocal relationship between a coach and an athlete, and the ways in which one contributes to the other's experience on and off the playing field.

"His four years of leadership at Middlebury College have totally transformed the culture that surrounds our golf program," said Beaney, relating the distinct characteristics that make Bane not only an inimitable leader, but an exemplary young man as well. The coach recounted "how humble he is, how hardworking he is, and how much he cares." Indeed, as captain of the team Bane has proven an instrumental force behind the program's success in recent years, earning All-NES-

CAC honors on several occasions over the course of his career, as well as the enduring respect of his teammates and tournament opponents.

Of his attitude toward competition, Bane extolled the merit of attention to sportsmanship. "What stays with you is how you played the game. Not how did you play after the round, but how well did you play? As competitors, we are judged not simply by our results but by how we accomplish those results," he said. "Other sports teams spend all week trying to kill the other team. At the end of the game they shake hands, but we compete against the course and against par. We have the ultimate — we have the four and a half-hour handshake."

In describing each other, Beaney and Bane employ similar language, both designating one as

the other's role model. Accepting the Guy Tedesco Award, Bane attributed much of his rewarding experience at Middlebury to his revered coach. "Four years ago coach Beaney brought me into the Middlebury community and it was the best thing that's ever happened to me," he said to a receptive crowd.

This mutual admiration represents the remarkable influence that a sport can have on a friendship, and the power of the bonds between an extraordinary coach and a tremendous athlete. While the conclusion of the fall golf season signifies the end of Bane's career at Middlebury, the legacy of excellence and integrity he leaves behind will remain an important message for future generations of Middlebury athletes, coaches and students overall.

Women's soccer edges Conn. College with late goal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Connecticut did not accept its Homecoming loss lightly; however, Middlebury's solitary goal proved enough to secure a victory for the Panthers.

The Panthers dominated the match offensively, and Connecticut's Ross made seven saves in net. Middlebury's keeper Lauryn Torch '11 anchored the shutout with three saves for the Panthers.

"The defense played really well, keeping Conn's offense to a minimum despite dealing with some injuries," said tri-captain Tiffany Orlowski '09.

With their spot in the NESCAC tournament solidly locked in, the Panthers turn their attention to making a few modifications before their playoff debut. Reflecting on the upcoming challenge of the battle against Williams, Parker observed that the two teams are, in her opinion, pretty evenly matched.

"For the last few weeks we have really been working to improve our speed of play and our speed of support," she said. "These will both be important aspects of our game as we go into the post season. As far as Williams is concerned, we will continue to work in these areas and others, but the important thing for the upcoming match is that we show up on Friday ready to battle."

Orlowski agreed. "For the playoffs, we're incredibly excited to be at home, and we worked really hard to secure that spot. Four straight NESCAC wins is a great accomplishment, and we're expecting that the playoffs are going to be just as hard, if not more intense than the regular season games," she said.

"We're just going to take it one game at a time though, and ensure that all of our focus is on that day," Orlowski concluded.

Middlebury will host the first round of the NESCAC tournament this Sunday, Nov. 2.

Field hockey maintains momentum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

for the Panthers, as they started off the first half with a bang, netting three goals in the first thirty minutes of play. All three of these goals were scored off beautifully executed penalty corners, with forward Allison Grant '11, midfielder Lindsay McBride '09 and forward Mar-nie Rowe '08.5 driving them past the Camels' goalkeeper. Center midfielder Mullery Doar '10 picked up the assists on both Grant's and McBride's goals. Doar, an all-around team player with great field vision, has assisted eight goals the season.

In practice, the Panthers have been focus-ing on perfecting their corners. Their hard work certainly seemed to pay off, as Middlebury fin-ished on three of its six penalty corners. Conn. College had a total of seven corners through-out the game but was unsuccessful in all of its efforts. Senior left back and co-captain Taryn Petrelli '09 continues to be a stronghold on the defensive line.

The strong Middlebury offensive effort continued in the second half when McCor-mack scored two goals, putting Middlebury at a 5-0 advantage in the game. McCormack's first goal was at the 48:14 mark, as McBride gave her a lead pass that she tapped in, and the other tally was unassisted as she went through two defenders and knocked the ball into the left post. These goals marked McCormack's tenth and eleventh of the season. She currently ranks second on the team for most goals, right be-hind Chase Delano '11, who has an astonishing 18 goals this season. Not far behind is Sophie Thompson '09, whose four goals against Bates two weeks ago helped her climb the ranks.

Middlebury had a clear shot advantage in the first half, out-shooting Connecticut College 9-0, but the Camels increased their shot counts in the second half and had four attempts on Middlebury goalkeeper and co-captain Caitlin Pentifallo '09. Camels forward Kelsey Freder-icks broke the shutout at the 56-minute mark,

which resulted in the 5-1 final score.

Connecticut College's assistant coach is Channing Weymouth, who is a 2006 graduate of Middlebury College and was also a three-time All-NESCAC and two-time All-Region performer throughout her career. Weymouth was also the assistant coach for Middlebury in the fall of 2006. The Panther field hockey team has had its share of previous Middlebury greats training and coaching them — especially this season, with Heidi Howard '99 and Reid Ber-rien '08. Howard was an All-American and NESCAC Player of the year in 1998, while Reid Berrien was a first team All-NESCAC selection in 2007. Additionally, DeLorenzo has been at Middlebury for eight seasons and earned her 200th career victory earlier in the season.

Middlebury begins postseason play on Nov. 2, and the coaches are extremely optimistic. The coaches, as well as the team, believe in and follow their team motto: "You can't put a limit on any-thing. The more you dream, the more you get."

Football narrowly falls to Trinity

By Nick Martell
STAFF WRITER

Trinity and Middlebury — it is not in any way a historical, traditional or school-wide sports rivalry between the two NESCAC colleges, but when it comes to football, the Panthers have a special place in their hearts for the Bantams they upset one year ago. For all the trash talking and arrogance of the perennial juggernauts out of Hartford, "we simply do not like them," said one anonymous Middlebury player.

The upset was not to be, however, with Middlebury succumbing to the Bantams 34-31. The loss dropped Middlebury to 3-3 on the year, guaranteeing that they will not be repeating as NESCAC champions.

Just as painful as the result was the brutally frustrating process in which the up-and-down game was lost. After six lead changes and eight combined interceptions, Trinity ultimately end-ed up on top with an 85-yard kick return mid-way through the fourth quarter.

The Panthers made a statement early on as Andrew Matson '09 and the offense scored on the first drive. The Bantams eventually broke through in the next quarter, beginning the high-scoring frenzy.

Fueling the aggressive Panther defense, Danny Haluska '10 tied a school record with three interceptions in the game, returning one of them for a touchdown. Haluska and Eric Kam-back '10 led the Middlebury defense with ten and eleven tackles, respectively. "It was a rough game for us," said offensive lineman Paul Ben-nett, adding that "those boys on defense really had some individual moments of brilliance."

Despite two touchdowns in the fourth quarter and an impressive accumulation of 450

total yards on the afternoon, the Panther offense came up short at the very end. Matson and Timothy Dillon '09 each caught eight passes, while Ryan Bohling '10 led all rushers with over 100 yards on the ground.

An emotional Tim Monaghan '10 reflected on the loss after the game.

"I really thought we had them there, it's why we work so hard for so many weeks and will just have to do it even harder for the next two."

One of the growing concerns for head coach Bob Ritter and the program right now though is the health of some key players. Since day one of preseason, Panthers have been go-ing down faster than Vermont temperatures in autumn, forcing the coaching staff to cancel the remaining JV games typically played on Sun-

days. With potentially serious injuries to start-ing quarterback Donnie McKillop '11 and de-fensive threat Kamback, Middlebury will again look to more young players to step up to larger roles and greater responsibilities in the remain-ing two games.

Next week Middlebury football heads west over the ominous Adirondacks to Clinton, N. Y. In the small upstate town, the Panthers will look to take a vicious bite out of the Hamilton Conti-nentals and begin to finally string back-to-back wins together with so little time left in the NES-CAC season. Despite playing well in the face of so many frustrating injury-related obstacles, as last Saturday's standout Haluska said, the team simply "has to put last week's and every game behind us and focus wickedly on Hamilton."



The Middlebury offensive line paved the way for over 450 yards of total offense on Saturday.

sportsbriefs

Jia You! Chinese Symbols top Ducks in clash of IM titans

One of the more competitive men's intra-mural soccer seasons in recent memory ended on Oct. 24 as the Chinese Symbols held off the Mighty Ducks 2-0 in a battle of the league's top two seeds. With the largest crowd of the season in attendance, the Chinese Symbols rode second-half goals from Zach Harwood '10 and Zach Smith '10 to remain unbeaten and clinch the title.

"It certainly was a grueling game. The Mighty Ducks put up a strong fight," said Adam Rice '10, captain of the Chinese Sym-bols. "However, the heart and drive of my fel-low teammates were certainly the keys to our victory. It feels great to accomplish such a feat with such a unique group of guys."

With no trophy to play for, the play-ers used the much-sought after intramural championship t-shirts as motivation when the game remained scoreless in the second half.

"Basically, it all comes down to 'who wants the t-shirts more,'" Rice said. "We were hungry and we weren't going to take no for an answer... booyakasha."

While Rice applauded the play of Har-wood and Smith, who frustrated the Mighty Ducks defense, he said the defense of William "Teddy" Waldo gave the team a chance to win by preventing numerous goal scoring oppor-tunities.

He also wanted to thank James Giampi-etto '09 and Jake Liberman '09, commission-ers of the league and players for the Mighty Ducks, for keeping the league together and running smoothly. But when prodded about whether the champions would be back to defend their title in the spring, he remained cryptic, saying that the team wanted to enjoy this season's victory before thinking about the next step.

"People ask us, 'Chinese Symbols, will you be playing next season?'" he said. "For now, we just tell them it's time to sip on the Andre and enjoy the offseason."

— Scott Greene, Editor-in-Chief

Jane Handel '12 named NES-CAC Player of the Week.

Middlebury women's volleyball player Jane Handel '12 was named the NESCAC player of the week on Monday for her efforts at the Hall of Fame Clas-sic over the weekend. Handel helped the Panthers to a 3-0 record at the Invita-tional, averaging 3.7 kills and 3.3 digs per game.

The accolade was the latest of what has been a very impressive rookie cam-paign for Handel. The first-year stands at third in the conference in kills, and has the most amongst any first-year player. She is also in the top-twenty in kill-percentage, service percentage and digs.

Amongst her teammates, Handel stands first in kills and aces, having averaged almost a kill more per game than any of the other Panthers. She is also third on the squad in both digs and blocks.

Handel is one-fourth of a very talented first-year contingent for the Panthers. Along with classmates Ellen Dahlberg '12, Caroline Cordle '12 and Elissa Goeke '12, Handel has propelled the team into the thick of the NESCAC standings. Following the leadership of co-captains Lindsay Patterson '08.5 and Reisa Bloch '09.5, the quartet has helped infuse the team with new life, stepping in and contributing from day one.

In related news, Patterson was named the Hall of Fame Invitational tournament Most Valuable Player for her efforts in Mount Holyoke over the weekend. Her tournament was high-lighted by a 12 kill/five dig performance against Wheaton.

— Peter Baumann, Sports Editor

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	10/9	Team	Campus Comments
1	—	Rugby	Both the men and women cruised into respective semifinals with Obama-like momentum. Yes we can!
2	2	Women's Soccer (7-4-2)	Ashley Pfaff '09 scored her 21st career goal; there is no "I" in team, but there might be three "P"s.
3	—	Quidditch	Won the World Championship but still can't fly ... or compete in reality.
4	5	Field Hockey (10-2)	Beat up on two one-win teams, a task only marginally harder than making the Great Eight this week.
5	6	Volleyball (12-9)	Have a good handle on the Great Eight after Jane Handel '12 earned Player of the Week honors.
6	7	Men's Soccer (9-1-2)	Unfortunate NESCAC change means playoffs start Sunday; Middlebury Discount Beverage distraught.
7	3	Football (3-3)	In danger of finishing .500 this year; it's like the early 2000s all over again.
8	—	Crew	Make the Great Eight after a strong showing at the Head of the Charles and The Campus Opinions page.



Allie Needham

Club sports and games based on fiction take three of this week's spots in the Great Eight. Each rugby team continues its playoff runs this weekend.

Volleyball captures classic

By Nicole Lam
STAFF WRITER

This weekend, the volleyball team turned in an impressive showing in South Hadley, Mass., winning all three of their games at the Hall of Fame Classic. After defeating the hosts from Mount Holyoke College 3-0 on Oct. 24, the Panthers recorded consecutive 3-0 victories against Wheaton and Gordon on Saturday Oct. 25. As has been their trademark all season, both offense and defense performed powerfully. At the end of the tournament, co-captain Lindsay Patterson '08.5 was awarded M.V.P. honors for her role in helping Middlebury capture the Silver bracket in the tournament.

Middlebury's victory relied heavily on the team's cohesiveness, a trait that has developed into a real strength both offensively and defensively.

"The offense and defense were working together and communicating to put up strong blocks and paired perfect passes with kills," said Josie Keller '09.

The Middlebury serving game was also effective, often putting opponents in difficult situations.

"We served particularly well, which put the other teams in trouble passing," said Patterson.

Mallory White '10 was the team's strongest server on day one, recording three aces during the contest with Mt. Holyoke, but as has been the squad's trademark all year, the Panthers received a balanced effort across the board. In the Holyoke game alone three Panthers, Jane Handel '12, Caroline Cordle '12 and Patterson recorded more than six kills, and Olivia Minkhorst '09 and Patterson both reached double digits in the dig column.

For this weekend, the team's aggressive serves, blocks, passes and kills successfully bolstered the team's confidence. The fact that both the offense and defense were clicking simultaneously allowed the Panthers to control the speed of the game.

"It makes a big difference when offense and defense are connecting because it speeds up the game and makes it a lot more competitive," said Whitney Cromwell '10. "When our passing is on, we can run our offense and put the ball away."

Coach Sarah Raunecker realizes

that with her most talented team in recent memory, sometimes simplifying things is the easiest way to find results.

"We didn't try to do anything different or special," she said. "We just went with the goal of playing our game, and being very sharp and not making mistakes. We were aggressive and served well all weekend."

Her players agreed with this sentiment, citing their service game in particular.

"We did a great job of forcing the other teams out of system with aggressive serving," said Cromwell, "which turned into better passing and some great offensive plays as well."

After this rewarding weekend, everything is looking up for the upcoming NESCAC quad at Colby and beyond.

"Our goal was to go undefeated, and we did," concluded Coach Raunecker. "Now we want to go undefeated the rest of the way, where we will face tougher competition, but we still feel good about our chances!"

— Additional reporting by
Peter Baumann



Allie Needham

RUGBY TEAMS WIN PLAYOFF GAMES

The men blanked the University of Maine 34-0 to win the New England Championships and the women pulled out a tight 7-5 victory over the University of Rhode Island. See pages 20 and 22 for full coverage.



File Photo / Andrew Ngewo

Margaret Owen '10 and the Panther offense provided just enough spark against Connecticut College to pull out a 1-0 victory over the host Camels.

Women's soccer climbs over camels' hump

By Lise Rosenberger
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury women's soccer surged ahead in its NESCAC domination this past weekend as the Panthers defeated Connecticut College on the Camels' home turf in Storrs, Conn. The Panthers' 1-0 win marks their fifth shutout of the season and their fourth consecutive win.

While they will play their final regular season game this Friday at Williams, the women have already secured their place in the NESCAC tournament thanks to their win on

and adjust to some trying weather conditions. "It took us a while to settle down the game in the first half," noted Senior tri-captain Caitlin Parker. "The field conditions weren't great and it was a pretty windy day, so it was tough to play the same kind of balls that we would normally play on our field at Middlebury."

However, the adjustment was made and the Panthers caught a break when Ashley Pfaff '09 scored the game's lone goal almost an hour into the match, off of a feed from Parker.

The goal marks Pfaff's first goal of the season and an impressive 21st of her career. Pfaff redirected Parker's feed from the right wing into the right corner of the goal off of the post, slipping out of the reach of Connecticut's goal-tender Jenna Ross. The second half was highlighted with offensive opportunities and exciting play, as

SEE WOMEN'S SOCCER, PAGE 22

WOMEN'S SOCCER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Middlebury	1
Connecticut College	0

Oct. 25, and look forward to hosting a first round game on Nov. 7.

It took a few minutes in the beginning of the game against the Camels for the Panthers to get into their play, calm their nerves,

Field hockey defeats Camels

By Maeve McGilloway
STAFF WRITER

Practice makes perfect. This old adage holds true when it comes to the Middlebury College field hockey team. The Panthers' hard work helped put them on a three-game winning streak, with its most recent victory against Connecticut College this past Saturday, Oct. 25 by a score of 5-1.

Heather McCormack '10 led the team offensively, scoring two of the Panthers' five goals. This weekend's win secures the third place spot for Middlebury, ending its conference play with six wins and two losses. The Panthers are behind undefeated Tufts (8-0) and Bowdoin (7-1), respectively. Despite Conn. College's last place status in the conference, the Panthers knew this weekend's game would be challenging, since the Camels compete on synthetic field turf rather than the Astro turf that the Panthers are used to playing on at Peter Kohn field. The introduction of synthetic surfaces and turf in the 1970s has dramatically changed the sport of field hockey, increasing the speed of the ball and making it easier for

special skill sets like stick trapping. A different type of grass could drastically change the outcome of any field hockey game.

Preparing for this adjustment a week before the game, Panther head coach Katharine DeLorenzo had the team practicing on the men's soccer field, which is similar to the Camels'

field. McCormack commented on how practice made the team aware and ready for the different surface. "We knew we had to make harder passes and we knew we couldn't wait for the ball to come to us," she said.

The extra preparation paid off

SEE FIELD HOCKEY, PAGE 23

Men battle back to tie Conn. College

By Kevin Carpenter
STAFF WRITER

The Panthers pulled out a tie in another dramatic finish against the Connecticut College Camels on Oct. 25 in a 1-1 draw. The tie brings Middlebury's record to 9-1-2 overall and secures home-field advantage in the upcoming NESCAC Championship.

The men's squad showed resilience in the midst of defeat. "We fought back in very tough conditions to avoid the loss," said Middlebury forward Stephen Hart '10. "Many teams will give up if they are down a goal with a minute left, but for the second

straight game we showed that we play hard until the final whistle blows, and again it paid off."

The Conn. College match had echoes of Middlebury's Oct. 22 game against Norwich University, in which

MEN'S SOCCER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Middlebury	1
Connecticut College	1

the Panthers fought back from a 1-0 deficit to win 2-1 from a goal by Brooks Farrar '11 with 43 seconds

SEE MACNEE'S, PAGE 20

For Bane '08.5 and coach Beaney, the respect runs deep

By Emma Gardner
SPORTS EDITOR

For the last time in his collegiate career, Harrison Bane '08.5 returned to Middlebury in a 15-passenger College van after a weekend of competitive golf two weeks ago. Just like every ride before, he sat in the passenger seat and spent the five-hour drive chatting with his coach and mentor, Bill Beaney. While many of his peers use that time

to catch up on TV episodes or get started on some reading for class, Bane seized the opportunity to learn from Beaney, the driver — just as he has for the past four years. The teaching, it appears, was not one-directional.

Coming off a strong fall season with the golf team, Bane has recently received multiple accolades of recognition for his hard work and formidable perseverance as an athlete. At the New

England Intercollegiate Golf Association Championship (NEIGA) two weeks ago, Bane received the 2008 Guy Tedesco Award for "unselfish leadership, outstanding talent, love of golf and a willingness to help promote the positive aspects of golf to others." As Beaney stood at the podium to present the NEIGA Player of the Year plaque to

SEE ATHLETE, PAGE 22

this week in sports

Football

Team drops close one to Trinity, falls to .500, page 23.



games to watch

Men's soccer NESCAC playoffs, Nov. 2 at 12 p.m.
Women's soccer NESCAC playoffs, Nov. 2 at 12:30 p.m.



Inside the Locker Room

Who knows cross country captain Hallie Fox '09.5 better? page 21.